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Paris Fashion

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PAGES 20,21



Roger Bannister on why Michael Jordan struck out PLUS: Norman Stone on Albert Speer, PAGES 46,47 **STONE AGE MILLIONAIRES**

THURSDAY MARCH 20 1997

Oilwells turn the Huli Wig Men into tycoons **PAGE 18**



TO SELLING SELLING SELLING ☐ Director.... ☐ Manager. ☐ Accountant 40K ☐ Graduate...

APPOINTMENTS 36-PAGE DOUBLE SECTION

Labour tries to extend session

Blair attacks sleaze report suppression'

By Philip Webster, political editor

TONY BLAIR last night led an unprecedented move to prevent Parliament rising for the general election tomorrow, in an attempt to force publication of the report on the cashfor-questions affair.

Mr Blair was joined by Paddy Ashdown, other minorleaders and the entire Shadow Cabinet in signing motions calling for the present session to be extended amid claims that the Government had deliberately timed the prorogation to delay publication the report until after the

The report into allegations of sleaze against MPs, includ-ing the former ministers Neil intention of giving way and as ministers refused demands for

A FORMER minister who

resigned after being paid to

ask parliamentary questions for Mohammed Al Fayed has

three times as much money as

had been previously been

Tim Smith, a former Con-

servative Party treasurer, has

told a Commons investigation

that he accepted £18,000 from

the Harrods owner. Although

no figure had been confirmed

in the past, it was assumed

that Mr Smith had received

The senior Tory backbench-er Sir Michael Grylls has also

fees totalling £6,000.

Ex-minister admits

to £18,000 payment

By Andrew Pierce, Political correspondent

Hamilton and Tim Smith, will be ready next week. But Sir Gordon Downey, the Commissioner for Standards, cannot present it to MPs when Parliament is not sitting.

Even the Queen was embroiled in the dispute when it was disclosed that she had already signed the papers providing for the prorogation tomorrow, so the date could not be changed. But Labour contested that assertion and the Government later accepted that the Queen could be asked to vary the timing.

It was nevertheless clear that the Government had no

admitted that he received

more payments from the lob-

byist Ian Greer than he at first

acknowledged, and he will be

liament in Sir Gordon Dow-

Sir Michael, the MP for Surrey North West, told the

now defunct Privileges com-

mittee's investigation into lob-

ney's report on the affair.

ing new business.

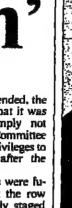
the session to be extended, the Speaker told MPs that it was constitutionally simply not possible" for the Committee on Standards and Privileges to continue its work after the prorogation.

The Conservatives were furious, claiming that the row had been deliberately staged to take the gloss of yesterday's sharp fall in unemployment. Ministers described as slanderous the suggestion that the election timing had anything to do with Sir Gordon's report, and Dr Brian Mawhinney, the Conservative Party chairman, accused Labour of playing

He said: "Mr Blair and Mr Brown look for a smear, look seeing the first example of the

A senior government source would be publishable immedit to the committee. But that interview key witnesses again.

bying in April 1990, that he had received three payments from Mr Greer for introduc-Lords reform, page li But both Sir Michael and Mr Greer later told Sir Gordon's confidential investiga-Continued on page 2, col 5



for a diversion to stop the people of Britain focusing on the good news. You are now Labour Party playing dirty

said that the Opposition was assuming that the report iately after Sir Gordon handed was unlikely to be the case; the The source said: "This report goes back over all the Al-Fayed-Rowland feud over 20 years. How do you unravel that in a day?"

Election 97, pages 12, 13 William Rees-Mogg, page 24 Leading article and Letters, page 25 Pennington, page 31 Graham Searjeant, page 33



Cherie Blair and Norma Major "very deep in conversation" at the Daily Star Gold Awards at the Savoy Hotel in London vesterday

Leading ladies rise above politics

By Carol Midgley

POLITICAL rivalry was off the menu yesterday as Norma Major and Cherie Blair met for lunch. The general election was ignored while the two joined forces to present awards for bravery.

As their husbands hit the campaign trail, the wives shook hands, posed for photographs and chatted like old friends at the Savoy Hotel in London. where they were joined at their table by Diana, Princess of Wales. It was only

the third time that Mrs Major and Mrs Blair had met, but onlookers said they were very deep in conversation. "Their greeting was genuinely warm and they actually made a good double act," said one guest.

Their outfits, too, did not clash. Mrs Major wore a fuchsia-pink suit with knee-length skirt while Mrs Blair wore a black trouser-suit and black silk ruffled blouse to the Daily Star Gold Awards. The Princess wore a pastel-pink jacket and above-the-knee skirt. and virtually ignored the bank of photographers outside the hotel. There was a tense moment when a photographer asked Mrs Blair if she

would pose for a picture with Mrs Major. She readily agreed but Mrs Major initially appeared uncertain. They had a private chat and the photo opportunity was granted.

The Prime Minister's wife was first to present six Gold Stars, rationing her kisses to one peck on the cheek for Jane Winslow, 12, from Grimsby, who sold

COMPUTING

her toys to raise money for her grandiather's cancer treatment. Mrs Blair, said observers, hugged the winners and seemed tearful as she gave awards to two from Dunblane, as well as to Lisa Potts, the nurse who risked her life to shield children from a

machete-wielding man. The Princess gave an award to Chris Moon, 33, who lost his right leg and hand clearing mines in Mozambique. He has since run three marathons to raise money to ban landmines.



Unemployment falls again

Unemployment is at its lowest level since the beginning of the 1990s. In February, seasonally-adjusted unemploy-ment fell by 68,200 to 1,746,300, the twelfth consecutive monthly fall Page 29

The Times on the Internet http://www.the-times.co.uk



Architecture prize for self-taught man

By MARCUS BINNEY

TADAO ANDO, an unqualified and entirely self-taught Japanese designer who cannot call himself an architect in Britain, has won the country's most prestigious prize for architecture.

In a move that will bring hope to thousands of similar designers and technicians for-bidden to describe themselves as architects, the Royal Institute of British Architects has awarded Mr Ando its 1997 Royal Gold Medal.

With Sir Norman Foster, Mr Ando counts as one of world architecture's top stars. Although he has never taken any architectural exams, he has scooped all of the world's top awards, including the £155,000 Carlsberg prize, the American Pritzker Prize, and the even more valuable Japanese Premium Imperiale.

The RIBA medal brings no money, but it is the oldest of



the world's leading architecture awards. First presented to Charles Robert Cockerell, architect of the Ashmolean Mu-seum, Oxford, in 1848, it has since been won by top interna-tional architects, including Le

Corbusier and Frank Lloyd Wright. Mr Ando was made an honorary fellow of RIBA in 1993 and has also won the gold medal of architecture in France, and Finland's Alvar Aalto award. He has been a visiting professor at Columbia, Harvard and Yale universities. The RIBA citation says: "His buildings respect surroundings if they are beautiful

and protect the observer if they are ugly. An Ando build-ing, is instantly recognisable. yet eminently individual." Mr Ando's most famous and admired buildings are his churches, notably the Chapel on the Water at Tomamu and the Church of the Light in Osaka. The beauty of his buildings lies in geometrical perfection, the inspired use of

light, and superb finishes.

Today the world heats a path to his door in Osaka. where he works with a team of 20 assistants, all qualified. He is a master of presentation, producing superh models and

bold freehand drawings.

A RIBA spokesman said yesterday: "If Mr Ando were to win a competition in Britain, he could build the building but not call himself its

De Kooning dies in his studio

Willem de Kooning, a domi-nant figure in the abstract died in his New York studio. He was 92.

The Dutch-born painter, whose works included the black and white Night Square and the colourful Woman, influenced the New York School that came to

Doctor jailed for indecent assault

A doctor has been jailed for three months after putting his hand up a nurse's skirt. Philip Sugarman, 32 of West Didshury, Manchester, who was engaged to be married. indecently assaulted the woman as she leaned over at the Royal Oldham Hospital. ManchesterPage 3

Italian crisis

Italy declared a state of emergency until June 30 to cope with the influx of more than 10.000 refugees from Albania Page 15

Nursery rethink

A senior Tory called for a rethink of the Government's nursery voucher scheme to save parents and schools from bureaucracy...... Page 6

Call of the Bar

The 120 places on the new Bar vocational course being run by the College of Law in September are being chased by LSOI students Page 9

Briton tells of SAS Albania rescue

By Michael Evans, defence correspondent

A BRITISH aid worker described yesterday how he was rescued by the SAS from rebelheld southern Albania and flown out to safety in an RAF Chinook helicopter.

Richard Welch, working for the Bedworth Christian Centre in Warwickshire, had been trapped in the village of Borsh, near Sarande, since March I after people looted an arms depot. He and another Briton contacted the British Embassy in Tirana to let officials know they were des-

perate to be rescued. Soldiers from the SAS Regi-ment flew out to Albania last week to protect the embassy and its ambassador, Andrew Tesoriere. They arrived with RAF Chinooks in case they had to help stranded Britons. The 39-year-old aid worker

from Dudley, West Midlands, was told to meet the SAS team. He said yesterday: "I contact-



Welch: sent out an SOS

ed another Briton in a nearby village and we both met up at the rendezvous point. Two Land Rovers were there and they were being driven by SAS soldiers in plain clothes. We drove five miles to the coast through roadblocks, without

any trouble, and suddenly two helicopters came down. About 25 SAS men in full combat gear came out and spread around the ground "like ants, taking up battle positions. The soldiers were very self-effacing and very modest. But they thanked me because they were glad to see some action and said they had

enjoyed coming to get me."
The two Britons were flown to Tirana and then across to Bari in Italy, before returning to England.

Mr Welch said that when the arms depot was looted Borsh was "suddenly filled with anti-tank missiles, guns, rifles and machineguns.
When I left, people from outside were trying to buy a machinegun for \$200," he **Redworth Christian Centre**

leave had now been rescued.

in Warwickshire sent 100 young people to Albania last year to help to renovate a school and a hospital. Mr Welch said he hoped to return. The Foreign Office con-firmed that two Britons and an American had been res-cued by British soldiers in RAF helicopters. It added that all the Britons who wanted to

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Missing peer tracked down to secret Westminster lair

a general election. Yes-terday this sketchwriter stumbled over a much bigger story. We may have sighted Lord Lucan.

I had looked in on the Upper Chamber to watch an oft-forgotten legislature whose session also approaches its close. The Lords Chamber was full. the atmosphere boisterous.

Election fever had penetrated even to this mild and rational place. As I entered. their Lordships were mooing angrily at each other about unemployment, the minimum wage and the social chapter. Lord Fraser of Carmyllie, a

Praise for

CSA after

'unhappy

birth'

By A STAFF REPORTER

THE Child Support Agency

has substantially improved its performance since its "difficult

and unhappy birth", but still has a big backlog of cases to deal with, MPs said

yesterday.
The role of the CSA is to take

lone parents, predominantly mothers, off benefit by making

absent parents pay mainte-nance for their offspring. But

figures in a report by the

Social Security Select Commit-

tee showed that only about a

third of lone parents on in-

come support and family cred-

it had received an assessment.

tered" the agency, said the MPs. The total of lone parents

on benefit - over 1.46 million

in May 1996 - was a "snap-

shot" total, whereas the figure

for the CSA caseload at the

same point — 485,000 — was a "cumulative" total, including

cases where absent parents

were themselves getting bene-

fit and were therefore readily

The report said the gap was

partly explained by the number of cases cleared without assessment, including those where the CSA accepted lone

parents' claims that they did

not want to get involved

because they feared retribu-tion from a violent ex-partner.

last year, said the MPs, the

number of maintenance appli-

cations on hand was 441,784,

which includes a consider-

able backlog compared to an

estimated 200,000 — 250,000

applications on hand that the

agency would expect to have

The MPs praised the agency for a significant im-

provement" in performance

since the agency started work

in 1993. The committee has

previously described its ad-

ministrative performance in

its first 18 months as "dire".

and the agency apologised to

its clients for its shortcom-

ings. "Whereas the agency

was heading for disaster in

1993-94, there is now no dan-

ger that this could occur," the

report said.

when at a "steady state" ".

But by the end of December

accessible to the agency.

Even this somewhat "flat-

was fielding questions in a knockabout mood more redolent of the Commons than the Lords. A Tory peer, the Viscount of Oxfuird, had asked what can only be described as poodling question, though from a very noble poodle. Hyundai were creating 2,000 jobs in Dunfermline, he said. What prospect of such investment under the job-destroying policies of the party opposite?

"My Noble Friend is absoright!" cooed Lord Fraser. Readers unfamiliar with the drawing-room ambience of the Other Place may not realise just how weird this



sort of exchange sounds, in the

Other peers rose. Tory Lords threw the windfall tax. Siemens and Scottish prosperity at the Opposition. Labour and Liberal Democrat Lords retaliated with MORI polls and French inward investment figures. Lord Beloff (a retired academic) told Labour's Lord Peston (another retired academic) that he

to teaching economics, as he did not understand it. Lord Fraser told Lord Peston he hoped he did return to teaching - after his party had lost the election. Lord Fraser read out figures for the latest fall in unemployment, and all the Tory Lords and Ladies shouted "Hurrah!"

And we moved to a defence

A senior Tory source said

that they were concerned about the "rigidity" of the BBC proposals. "The Prime Minis-

ter does not like the stopwatch

approach, of nine minutes for

each question, which will give

Tony Blair the opportunity to

trot out his soundbites, with

Both proposals include an

audience but neither would be

allowed to participate. The source said that Mr Major

would like two debates and it was possible that one could be

on BBC and the other on ITV.

The televised debate be-

tween the three main party leaders should be produced

jointly by the BBC, ITV and the satellite station Sky News,

and screened simultaneously

on all three channels, a senior

Sky executive said yesterday (Alexandra Frean writes).

News, has invited Tony Hall.

chief executive of BBC News,

and Marion Bowman, deputy

controller of factual pro-

grammes at ITV, to discuss

the proposal. He said that the

party leaders were far more

likely to agree to a debate if

and if they were not required

should be done in the Ameri-

can way, with one output

made available to all broad-

casters." He said one possible

format would be to have a

panel of interviewers, one

from each of the three broad-

casters, and an independent

Election 97, pages 11. 12 and 13

"Our view is that the debate

to chose between rival bids.

Nick Pollard, head of Sky

no proper time for debate."

Readers may remember that a man described as the

Earl Attlee, grandson of the former Labour Prime Minister, has recently joined the Conservative Party. Yesterday he made his first contribution from the government benches in the Lords. What, we wondered, was he bursting to say? Might we be about to hear what had pushed him to this

There was a hush as he rose. Lord Attlee had a pale, waxy complexion, a moustache, dark hair (receding) and a long nose. He spoke in a deadpan voice. And now a new speculation gripped me.

Was this Lord Lucan? One had, after all, never heard of an "Earl Antee" before a formight ago. He seemed suddenly to have appeared.

From where? From hiding? Photographs of Lord Lucan suggest a lower brow, but these were taken some years ago: the hair will have receded since then. It should be grey by now, but he may be dyeing it

His question was for the Earl Howe, a Defence Minister. One recalled his alleged grandfather's record. Clement Attlee was passionate for rearmament in the 30s, and secretly authorised Britain's independent nuclear deterrent in the 1940s. Though the subject

plies to the Armed Forces, an ingenious peer can always nudge debate in the direction he desires. Perhaps his grandson (if this was his grandson) sought modern reassurance on some of the great issues which had dominated his grandfather's career?

He spoke. "My own TA unit. he told their lordships, frequently received supplies of beer that had very little shelf-life left. It is very difficult to drink large quantities of beer in a short space of time." Lord Attlee sat down. Peers

And that was it.

Britain agrees to label its beef

By MICHAEL HORNSBY AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN agreed to compulsory labelling for beef export-ed to other European Union countries yesterday, despite fears that this could lead to an indefinite Continental boycott of the British product.

The climbdown came a year after the Government precipitated a ban on British beef by disclosing that a new strain of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD), a fatal brain condition, was probably caused by eating beef infected with BSE. The ban, which halted beef exports worth more than £500 million a year. is still in force. Even exports of by-products such as tallow and gelatine remain blocked.

In an unexpected move on the third day of talks between European Union farm ministers in Brussels, the Government withdrew its opposition to the labelling scheme which it had earlier said violated the single market's free-trade rules. Douglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minister, was summoned home from the meeting on a three-line whip on Monday night, leaving Britain represented only by officials when the labelling decision was taken. By introducing a labelling system European consumers will know exactly what products they are dealing with and where they are from, said lozias Van Aartsen, the Dutch farm minister and the current president of the Council of Ministers.

The labelling scheme is intended to restore consumer confidence in beef. Sales have been worse hit in many Continental countries than in Britain, where consumption is now close to where it was before the Government's announcement on CJD.

The labelling scheme will be optional for meat sold on a member state's home market. but compulsory from the start of the year 2000 for meat exported to other countries in the EU if those countries have adopted the labelling plan.

Bloody Sunday law threat The Irish Government is considering legal action against

NEWS IN ORIGIN

Britain in the European courts if the investigation into the Bloody Sunday shootings is not reopened. Dick Spring, the Irish Deputy Prime Minister, said that a new investigation was needed to establish how the original report on the killing of 13 people by paratroopers in 1972, which exonerated the soldiers, had "got the facts so wrong". The Irish Government is compiling a dossier on the shootings to be sent to London, and sources said that legal action might be taken if the inquiry was not reopened.

Robinson backed

The Irish Government has formally nominated President Robinson for the post of United Nations High Com-missioner for Human Rights. The decision made at a cabinet meeting yesterday, will be followed by intensive lobbying by the Irish Prime Minister, Government and diplomats at the UN in Geneva and New York.

Gun man wins

Police have lost a legal fight to stop a Norfolk man from holding a gun licence. They claimed Robert Edwards, 44, was unfit to handle weapons because of a propensity to violence but a High Court judge disagreed. Police al-leged that Mr Edwards beat the woman he lived with and had three convictions, two for using violence.

Crew blameless

An official investigation into the sailing tragedy last month in which two police officers and a teenager died has cleared the crew of blame. The 35ft yacht Fairview Two was on charter to the Metropolitan Police Sailing Club and returning to base in Hamble, Hampshire. It was struck by a freak wave, demasted and overturned.

Naafi relaunch

Britain's 200 Naafi stores are to be relaunched as Spar shops in all but name this summer, in an attempt to pull the troubled Navy, Army and Air Force retailer back into profit Naafi will pay Spar, which looks after 2,500 independent grocery stores, an undisclosed sum to train manlend its brand name.

Cat killer guilty

A man who drop-kicked a neighbouring family's cat over a garden fence, killing it.

hoped he would never go back Major negotiates showdown debate with BBC and ITV By JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT minute programme in both proposals. Under the BBC with Jonathan Dimbleby chairing. plan, Mr Major and Mr Blair Mr Ashdown would then face questioning on his own, would be involved in a 54 minute debate, chaired by David Dimbleby. The two when Mr Blair and Mr Major would be cross-questioned by Sue Lawley and Michael leaders would be asked six with both the BBC and ITV. questions each and be allowed

A TELEVISION debate between John Major and Tony Blair seemed inevitable last night as the Prime Minister instructed his party chairman to start formal negotiations

Senior Tory party sources unveiled details of the proposals from both TV channels but said that at present it favoured the ITV plans, as they were less "rigid" than those put forward by the BBC. Michael Dobbs, former vice-chairman of the Tory party, will be leading the debate team. Neither plan involves

three-way debate with Paddy Ashdown, although the Liberal Democrat leader will

two bites at the reply, following up each other's comments, nine minutes. Mr

Ashdown would then be interviewed for 16 minutes and there would be statements from all three leaders at the end. Under the ITV plan, all three leaders would make short opening statements and each leader would be asked one question. Then the Prime Minister would debate with

Stirring speech lifts backbench spirits

By JILL SHERMAN

JOHN MAJOR told Tory MPs yesterday that more than a third of voters had not decided who to back in the election, and it was "our job to bring those voters back home". In a rousing end-of-term

address to the backbench 1922 Committee, Mr Major emphasised that the Conservatives could still win. Several Cabinet ministers attended the meeting.He pointed to the good economic indicators this week and said that Labour's raising Sir Gordon Downey's unpublished report on the cash-for-questions affair had been a "stunt".

Labour would ruin the economic achievements that the Tories had built up since 1979, he said. The Tory policies which had been opposed by Labour over the past 18 years now appeared to be acceptable to them, he said.

Tory MPs said afterwards that Mr Major's speech had crept a little higher tonight."

comment about the proportion

MPs to focus on the differences between the Tories and Labour, concentrating on the proposed windfall tax, the social chapter and Labour's opposition to expanding selection in schools. He souched briefly on Europe, on which the Tories have in effect agreed an election truce.

been crucial in raising morale after the heavy defeat by Labour in the Wirral South by-election last month. "That was the low-point of the last year, and our spirits have MPs said that Mr Major's

of undecided voters had in particular raised morale. Although several conceded that the Tories are a substantial way behind Labour in the opinion polls, one said: "The Prime Minister is genuinely confident. Even if others don't have the same optimism, they feel much better tonight." The Prime Minister urged



Al Fayed payment

Continued from page 1

tion that the true number of Smith's evidence that will fees was at least six. The most embarrass the Conser-£30,000. Sir Michael, who is stand-

ing down at the election, said: "It is true I gave the wrong information to the select committee. But I based the evidence on incorrect information I had received." The discrepancy over pay-

ments to Sir Michael was one of the reasons for the collapse of the libel case brought by Mr Greer and the former Trade Minister Neil Hamilton against The Guardian.

vatives. He won plaudits from colleagues when he resigned on the day the cash-for-queslished in October 1994. John Major, who had been told about the allegations three weeks earlier, praised him for his "clear and full

explanation". Mr Smith received his payments between 1986 and 1989, when he asked 17 questions for Mr Al-Fayed in the Commons. He argued that he had raised "legitimate concerns".

was ordered to pay £270 compensation by magistrates in Leicester. Norman Inchley, 50, who was involved in a long-running feud, denied cruelty, saying he loved animals, but was convicted after another neighbour told of seeing the incident

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THE Archbishop of Canterbury. Dr George Carey, finds his job "very wearying" and will be ready to hand over to someone else in five years' time, he has disclosed. Dr Carey, 61, who has recently

returned to work after a six-week sabbatical, says there are times when he gets "very tired", but he perseveres, in spite of criticism from some quarters, because he believes God has called him to the role.

BY RUTH GLEDHILL

RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

Weary Carey 'will be ready to hand over in five years' broadcast next month he says: "I think it is a very wearying job. You pour yourself into it and it is not only the physical side of this - because there is a physical demand on you but it is also spiritually and emotionally demanding because you are

being hit from many angles. From a Christian point of view obviously there is a God-givenness about this. I have to say that God has chosen me to do this." Failure to believe that could lead to despair, he says. "There are times when I get is no doubt about it that in five years' time, it will be ready, I will be ready. to hand over to somebody else.

Dr Carey, like all freehold clergy, is entitled to remain in office until he is 70 Because he became Archbishop at the exceptionally young age of 55, retirement at 65 would not be seen as early retirement.

A spokeswoman was last night quick to counter any suggestion that a decision had already been made to go at 65. She said: "The Archbishop was anticipating how he might feel

very tired. I am feeling fine, but there and this should not be taken in any way as an actual decision. It is far too soon for that. It will obviously depend on how he feels in the future."

The Archbishop is likely to make a final decision nearer to his 65th birthday, after consulting friends and colleagues throughout the Anglican Communion. There is little doubt that Dr Carey, considered an episcopal version of a workaholic by those close to him, would stay on if he felt called to do so, no matter how

exhausted he had become. Dr Carey, filmed by Meridian

Broadcasting during a visit to South Africa to mark the retirement of Archbishop Desmond Tutu, also discloses a passion for football, and reveals his sadness that his ministry does not always receive the support in Britain that it does on his frequent

trips overseas. I do not think any point of my ministry has every been wholeheartedly 100 per cent backed," he says. "But with God all things are possible and I have seen over the last five years wonderful things happening, signs of life, signs of growth,"

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Wine buyers check wallets as Bordeaux predicts vintage year



A LARGE contingent of the British wine trade will descend on Bordeaux next week, wondering whether United Kingdom customers can afford to

buy any 1996 fine clarets. The French, hopeful that prices iready at record levels may rise yet higher, have postponed the annual release of their most valuable wines. Though they will be available for asting in Bordeaux from next week, the prices may not be declared for at

least another two or three weeks. The word in the trade is that 1996 is an even better year for claret than being released onto the market at this

The 1996 wines, few of which even wine merchants have yet been able to taste, will not be ready to leave cellars in Bordeaux for another two years. seem to have been saved from the effects of a relatively cold, wet summer by a warm, dry September. Respected château owners are

optimistic. Anthony Barton, owner of Châteaux Léoville-Barton and Lango-Barton, has said that 1996 could prove the best vintage of the decade. Other authorities have sug-

may even prove the best year since the classic 1982

Prices for good vintage claret shot up by an average of 60 per cent last year, and the continuing excitement in the market was evidenced at an auction at Sotheby's in London yesterday, with prices continuing an upward trend which is putting more and more wines beyond ordinary drinkers' reach. Clarets of popular chateaux that were still under £30 a bottle retail a few years ago now cost over £50 even before they are bottled and shipped.

Serena Sutcliffe, the Master of

Wine who is head of Sotheby's International Wine Department, said after a sale in which 98 per cent by value of the wines successfully sold: This was an outstanding result. Top wines from the exceptional vintages of the 1980s are simply racing out of

the saleroom. Stephen Mould, the auctioneer who took the sale, said afterwards: There is very strong demand from the Far East, but some of the highest priced lots still went to UK buyers. Prices for good vintage claret generally continued upwards, so that first class growths of the 1982 vintage which were £3,600 a case at the end

of last year, were fetching £4,200 at this sale."

Freddy Price, a London merchant whose trade tasting earlier this week included some of the first cask samples of 1996 clarer seen in London, said yesterday: The quality seemed very high indeed, but until I have tasted more wines it is too early to judge the overall quality of the vintage. I am going to Bordeaux on Friday and I expect about half the British wine trade to be there. This is certainly going to be a year for en primeur sales, when customers buy wines as soon as they are released. even before they are bottled."

Doctor jailed for groping nurse in hospital store

A DOCTOR has been jailed for three months and faces being struck off the Medical Register after putting his hand up a nurse's skirt.

Philip Sugarman, 32, who said he often engaged in sexual banter with colleagues to relieve stress, indecently assaulted the woman as she leant over a trolley at the Royal Oldham Hospital.

The 34-year-old nurse, who cannot be named, was in tears for much of the three-day hearing at Manchester Crown Court and left yesterday supported by her friends and

The court was told that Sugarman, a registrar, accepted that his banter was politically incorrect, but believed that it helped to relieve tension in the busy casualty unit.

A jury of nine men and three women convicted Sugarman, of West Didsbury, Manchester, by an 11 to one majority after deliberating for three hours and ten minutes.

The court was told that he followed his victim into a storeroom, put his hand up her skirt and said: "I want to see if you wear knickers for work." He backed off when she shouted and swore at him.

The woman later complained to police and Sugarman was arrested. The doctor did not deny the incident but claimed that sexual banter with the woman had led him to believe she would consent. The nurse denied that she had engaged in sexual banter with him.

The assault came a few weeks after Sugarman had joined the hospital. He was engaged to be married to a nurse at the time.

Clement Goldstone, QC, told the court in mitigation that his client's career could be ruined: "This is a case that will have serious, if not tragic, consequences for the defendant in the context of his career. I cannot seek to criticise the Crown Prosecution Service for having brought this case before the criminal courts, but it is difficult to refrain from expressing the view that this matter could have remained an internal disciplinary matter."

Judge Hammond disagreed, saying that trust was



Sugarman: lawyer said

vital between colleagues. "I don't think it was a matter that could be overlooked; people have to work with each other and they have to trust each

Mr Goldstone' said that Sugarman was ashamed of himself and realised that it had been an unpleasant experience for his victim. The nurse, who has a child, was off work for two months after the incident in February last year

and had received counselling. The judge, who said the offence fell towards the lower end of the scale, emphasised that female hospital staff were entitled not to be abused while at work. He told Sugarman: Your behaviour was intolerable and unforgiveable. Women who work in hospitals have to be certain that they are not going to be grabbed from behind and have a hand pushed up their skirt."

After the hearing, Sugar-man's lawyers said that his family had been shocked by the sentence and that there would be an appeal. Sugarman has still to face an internal inquiry.
The Professional Conduct

Committee of the General Medical Council examines the cases of all practitioners who receive jail sentences. The committee has the power to strike doctors off the Medical Register or to recommend that they face restrictions on practising.



New bunch: the once prevalent floral image is relegated to a few stylised blooms

Laura Ashley puts Bo Peep out to pasture

By Grace Bradberry, style editor

LAURA ASHLEY is rein- use flowers - it doesn't have venting its image, exchanging the twee sprigs that made it famous for outsized roses, or dropping the floral theme completely. An advertising campaign launched in America carries the slogan: "Laura Ashley — say it without flowers."

The second line reinforces the change of image. "If you thought you knew Laura Ashley, think again." The campaign, devised by Ann Iverson, its American chief executive, marks the end of an era. Tens of thousands of women have a sprig-patterned skirt, smocked pin-afore or 1980s taffeta ballgown lurking in their

Ms Iverson, who moved to Laura Ashley from Mothercare in 1995, inherited a company that was struggling to reinvent itself. Research showed that potential customers regarded the label as frumpy, outdated and expensive and it suffered heavy

losses in the early 1990s.

In January, Ms (verson appointed a new head of design, Basha Cohen, with a brief to produce modern classics. The spring and sum-mer collection is the first produced by Ms Cohen and jettisons the leg-of-mutton sleeves and lace collars.

The Laura Ashley collection does include some flowers, but they are stylised white silhouettes on a black dress or huge roses. A company spokeswoman said: "There are many different ways to

to be early Eighties."

The policy is a tightrope:

most women still connect Laura Ashley with its Arcadian image. So influential was the 1975 "milkmaid" dress that it is included alongside Vivienne Westwood and Mary Quant designs in the Cutting Edge exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum.

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In the Eighties, Laura Ashlev was the label that many teenage girls craved. Kate Reardon, fashion editor of Tatler, said: "At 15, my biggest dream was to have a strapless Laura Ashley evening dress to wear to the

Hurlingham Club disco. "But the fact that they're providing sleek clothes that women can wear to the office without looking like Little Bo Peep is to be applauded."



Back petalling: the old milkmaid look

Firefighters | Woman wins first made to pay for sexual bullying

By A STAFF REPORTER

SIX firemen have been punished for sexually harassing a woman colleague days after their brigade had to pay a record £200,000 compensation to her colleague for sexual

The Hereford and Worcester force said yesterday that it had eradicated sexual bullying after one fireman was forced to resign and five others fined for "gross and foul" behaviour to Becky Walker.

Earlier this week Tania Clayton, 31, was awarded £200,000 after suffering three years of intimidation, insults and cruelty. An internal investigation by

the force has disciplined six firefighters after what a Fire Brigade Union spokesman said was "gross and foul acts of sexual harassment, including physical acts" against Miss Walker, who work suffering from stress. Hereford and Worcester

County Council said its fire service had eradicated such behaviour. "We now have a new administration and new fire officer and it is a measure of the confidence in them that Miss Walker felt able to complain about her colagues' behaviour."

judgment against stage hypnotist

judgment against a stage hyp-notist in a claim for psychological damage during his show. Lynn Howarth. 36, a trainee midwife, says that she became a different person after taking part in a stage act that she had booked for a social evening. She tried to commit suicide twice and shouted abuse at her

Mrs Howarth is claiming thousands of pounds against the hypnotist for loss of earnings for both her and her husband, who had to give up work to look after her and their seven children. At Blackburn County Court a judg-ment was entered in default because the hypnotist failed to file a defence.

Mrs Howarth was hypnotised for two hours during the show at a social club near her home in Lancashire. She was made to dance like Madonna and shivered when made to believe she was freezing cold. During the act in February 1994 she was told she would wake up when she touched the hand of the hypnotist and would feel a 10,000 volt electric shock. She said yesterday: "Inside my head I was beg-ging to be allowed to go back

from villagers' gardens.

One animal selflessly lies

across the grid as its compan-

ions line up to step across it to

where they can see the grass is

greener. The carefully co-

ordinated behaviour, which

leaves the first sheep ma-

rooned on the wrong side of

the grid, has impressed vil-

lagers in Bramshaw, Hamp-

shire. Sue Wyan, a parish

A WOMAN has won the first to my table. But he had me totally under his control and I couldn't make a sound that he didn't order me to make. The humiliation was awful. I wandered back to out table like a zombie." Although her husband complained, he was told by the hypnotist that his wife was just tired. But by the time she got home she was shivering with cold and had a headache. She remained feel-ing ill for four days before her doctor told her that she was suffering a form of trauma. She remained ill for six

During that time she became depressed and was prescribed Prozac. She started shouting at the children and screaming abuse at them. Brian had to come home from work and do all the cooking and housework. I couldn't bear to cuddle the children let alone let Brian touch me. It is a mircale our

marriage survived." Seven months after being hypnotised she tried to commit suicide by driving her car at high speed towards a tree. At the last minute she thought of her family and swerved away. A few of weeks later she did the same thing.

'Baroness' accused of £16 trillion fraud

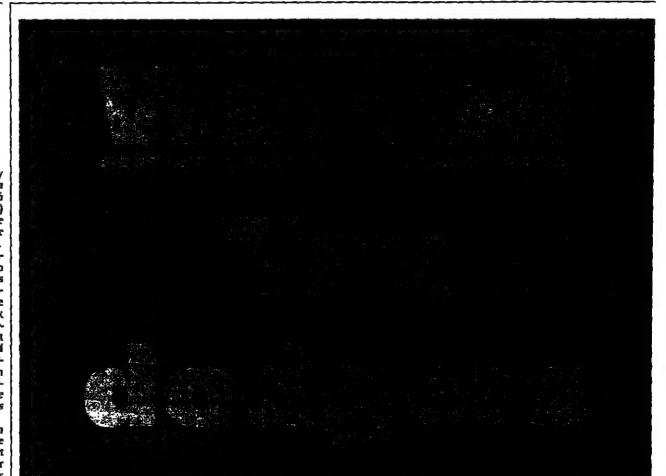
BY DAMIAN WHITWORTH

A WOMAN who allegedly posed as a baroness in an attempt to pull off a £16 trillion (El6 million million) fraud was found out when she claimed to possess unrealistic quantities of precious metals.

Financial staff grew suspicious when she claimed to have access to more precious metals than had been produced in the world over the past 150 years, Southwark Crown Court was told yesterday. The jury was told that Elda Beguinua, 52, who styled herself Baroness Avilla, attempted to secure £16 trillion in credit using laise certifi-cates that purported to give her access to precious metals worth £600 billion.

When she approached John Fox, a broker, he realised the story was fictitious, the court was told. Martin Hicks, for the prosecution, said Ms Beguinua told Mr Fox that since 1930 certificates had been deposited in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. Mr Fox knew bullion deposits held there but had been moved

Ms Beguinua. from Bayswater. London, denies using a copy of a false instrument. The case continues.



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Sheep in the New Forest eyeing up the challenge

BY A STAFF REPORTER

Selfless sacrifice puts sheep in clover

A FLOCK of sheep in the New councillor. said: "I couldn't Forest has developed a cunbelieve my eyes the first time I ning streak not normally assaw it. Once the sheep saw the grass on the other side of my sociated with the species. The cattle grid they obviously animals appear to have formed an ovine commando decided nothing was going to unit to breach cattle grids designed to keep them away

stop them getting in. They must have seen that the grass was greener in my garden and that - come what may - they were determined to get there. While one of them lies over the grid, the others jump on its back and

cross to the other side." Fellow villagers Len and Ann King said the enterprising manoeuvre was one of many methods sheep had used to enter private gardens.

"We had them in and out of our garden for weeks. Despite doing everything we could to stop them. We just couldn't keep them away." Mr King said.

"If they're not battering their way in they're using cunning methods to get to our

Problems have arisen in the past two years because New Forest commoners have been allowed to turn their sheep out on land owned by the National Trust. At a meeting earlier this week the parish council chairman Jack Sturgess was asked to address

By NIGEL HAWKES SCIENCE EDITOR

AGGRESSIVE treatment of mild heart attacks does more harm than good, an American study has shown. The death rate is higher among patients who are examined by hav-ing tubes introduced into their hearts, a procedure that is common in America but less so in Europe.

The findings surprised the researchers because American cardiologists have been convinced that rapid, all-out treatment is the best option, even for victims of relatively mild heart attacks.

"We were just aston-ished to find that people who got the more aggres sive therapy had a significantly higher death rate," William Boden, who directed the study at the Veterans' Affairs Upstate Health Care System in Syracuse, New York, said.

In the aggressive approach tested in the study, doctors send all patients for catheterisations, in which a small tube is introduced into the heart and dye is released so that the blood flow can be seen.

If narrowing is found, such patients are treated with balloon angioplasty — in which a balloon is inflated inside the artery to widen it — or by surgery in which the blocked arteries are bypassed. The alterna-tive is to monitor patients closely with non-invasive tests such as an electrocardiogram. and give drugs that break up blood

Patients get health tips on how to give GPs a happy Easter

HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

A CAMPAIGN to encourage patients to look after their own health over Easter, so that family doctors can have a restful holiday, was announced by the British Medical Association yesterday. The campaign, which in-

cludes posters and leaflets with advice for doctors and patients, received the backing of the Health Secretary, Stephen Dorrell, who made a rare visit to the BMA's headquarters to show his support for the country's 30,000 GPs. However, medical organ-

isations criticised its "negative" content. Cathy Gritzner, of the Patients Association, said the campaign sent out the wrong messages.
"We're concerned that pa-

tients will now go to accident and emergency departments at hospitals. You will have very tired junior doctors dealing with patients they don't know and whose history they are unaware of. A & E depart-



THE brother of a student who died from a brain condition linked to "mad cow" disease has been granted legal aid to sue the Government for alleged negligence in failing to

protect the public. Peter Hall, from Chester-le-Street, Co Durham, died last year aged 20 from a new variant of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease which scientists think was probably caused by eat-

Bogle: said urgent cases would still have access ments are going to get even more clogged up. The Community Practitio-ners and Health Visitors Asso-

ciation was "gravely concerned" that the campaign would deter the old and the vulnerable from seeking medical help. The BMA said that urgent cases would always receive attention, but that other patients should try to avoid calling out

Mr Hall's elder brother, John,

25, a student at Newcastle

between BSE and the new strain of CJD was disclosed

last year by Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary. At the time ten cases of the new

disease had been reported.

Since then six more have been

diagnosed. At Mr Hall's in-

quest the coroner said the

most likely cause was eating

ment last year as part of a deal to end the profession's dispute the GP unnecessarily.
Out-of-hours calls have inover out-of-hours payments.
About 50 health authorities who have contributed to the scheme will receive posters and leaflets for distribution to The action is being taken by patients and doctors, advising

Dr Bogle rejected criticism from the Patients Association University.
The likelihood of a link that the campaign was a misuse of NHS resources designed to benefit doctors, not patients. "Certainly it is about making GPs' lives less hectic. but it is not to allow lazy doctors to put their feet up. I refute that entirely." Mr Dorrell said the public needed to be reminded of how best to use the out-of-hours service.

aspirin for a headache.

sure thay had adequate sup-

plies and that, for most

illnesses, a day or two's wait

before seeing the doctor would

do no harm. But he empha-

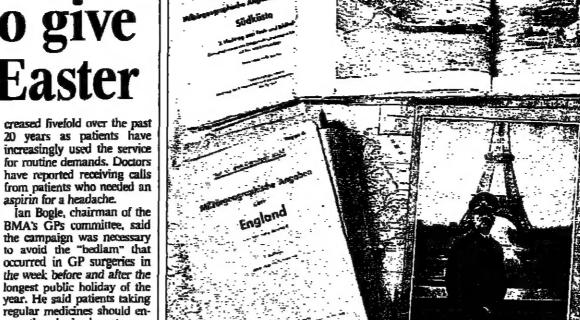
sised that urgent cases would be seen or given advice over

the telephone, as appropriate.
They will always have access

The £2,500 campaign is the first of the Doctor-Patient

Partnership initiated by the BMA and the Health Depart-

them how to prepare for



The 1940 guidebooks include snapshots of the South Coast and, below, the Houses of Parliament

Nazis' rough guide to invading Britain

GERMAN intelligence maps disguised as tourist guide-books are among wartime souvenirs to be sold by a former Royal Engineer. The 20 mapbooks were prepared for Operation Sea Lion, the

German invasion which was halted by the Battle of Britain.
The books, dated September 1940, show the South Coast and parts of East Anglia. The Germans had aerial photographs of possible invasion beaches from Dover to the West Country. One book contains a concertina-folded map about 40ft long. There is also a guide to England and a glossary of English, Gaelic and Welsh, plus pamphlets for the invasion of Russia in 1941. They have been put up



for sale by Pat Grehan, 76. a map surveyor from Ormsby St Margaret, near Great Yarwhile serving with the Royal

to work for the Ordnance depot near Hanover. "There pack up the interesting stuff and send it home and to destroy the rest. As I was a map man, I decided to keep a set as a souvenir. When he joined the Army

he worked on maps for the defence of Southampton and later found copies of them in a German depot in France.

Mr Grehan said: "Towards the end of the war the authorities asked people in this country to send in holiday snaps of the French coast to help to plan the invasion of Europe. The books show how the Germans were doing it well before 1940." The collection is expected to make about £600 at G.A. Key in Ayles-

Transsexuals win European backing in battle for legal recognition

BY FRANCES GIBB LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

TWO men who changed sex but cannot alter their birth certificates have won a crucial round in their battle for full legal recognition. Kristina Sheffield and Rachel Horsham say the Government's refusal to accept their new sexual status as women breaches their right to respect for a private life, guaranteed by the European Convention on Human Rights. Yesterday they won the backing

of the European Commission of Human Rights, which has passed their cases to the European Court of Human Rights for a final ruling. A victory there next year would force legal changes to allow transsexuals to have their birth certificates altered. The Government is opposed to such a change, because

it says the certificate is a record of events at birth and is not affected by what happens later.

Ms Sheffield, now 51 and living in London, has been provided with a passport and driving licence in her new name since changing sex in 1986, but is still regarded as a man under British law. That means she was required to divorce before the sex-change surgery and cannot marry a man. Her ex-wife's

application to a court to terminate Ms Sheffield's access to her daughter was approved, on the ground that contact with a transsexual would not be in the child's

interests. As a result, she has not seen her daughter for eight years. Ms Horsham, also 51, who has been living in Amsterdam since 1983, claims she is forced to live in exile because she wants to marry her male partner. They plan to

marry in Holland, where the law recognises transsexuals. She has been issued with a birth certificate showing her new sex by the Register of Births in The Hague, but a request to the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys in Britain to amend her original hirth certificate was rejected.

Both women complained to the Commission on Human Rights, which acts as a first filter of cases before referring them to the Euro-pean Court of Human Rights, that the determination of gender under British law on the basis of "biological indicators" existing at birth was unjustified socially, medically and scientifically.

They argued that the fact that egal purposes - such as obtaining insurance and contractural documents - require them to disclose their previous gender amounted to

ernment said the human rights convention did not require legal recognition of new sexual identity and that any inconvenience did not amount to a denial of rights. It also argued that marriage may legiti-mately be restricted under national laws to a union between a man and a woman "of biological origin".

Law Report, page 42

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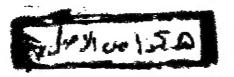
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Rail owners under fire for cancelling too many trains

THE new owners of Regional Railways North East have fallen foul of their local passenger transport authority after cancelling 49 trains in one day. Hundreds of trains have been cancelled, mostly because of a lack of drivers, since MTL Bus group took over the franchise.

The West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Authority said yesterday that 79 trains failed to run in the first week of March, and 97 the following week. On one Saturday, 49 trains were cancelled in West Yorkshire alone.

In the first week of the month 87 per cent of cancellations were due to shortage of drivers. In the second week the proportion attributed to that

cause rose to 92 per cent. Mick Lyons, the West Yorkshire PTA chairman, said yesterday: The figures for cancellations which I have obtained are shocking. I understand over 80 drivers have lost their jobs. Arrangements were obviously not in place to carry the workload. Whether that is due to rostering problems, or to a lack of trained staff. I do not know."

Mr Lyons said he wanted a detailed explanation from MTL and an action plan outlining how it intended to rectify the situation. He added: "We are just at the outset of the franchise and already we are getting reports of the same problems which are bedevilling other franchises in other parts of the country."

The rail pressure group Save Our Railways, criticised

MTL for curning jobs and not caring about passengers. Jon-athan Bray, the group co-ordinator, said: "MTL had detailed plans setting out their job-cutting proposals for months before they took over. Now the scale of job cuts they are proposing - some 40 per cent of the workforce - are hitting home. Serious questions must now be asked about why the franchise director gave the contract for Regional Railways North East to a company whose job-cutting plans were always bound to A spokesman for MTL

admitted there had been "a small increase in cancella-tions". He said: "The number of trains run has fallen slightly from 99.6 per cent to 99.3 per cent. This remains significantly better than the Passenger's Charter requirement in our contract as operators."

He added: "Most of these cancellations were due to problems surrounding a new drivers' roster introduced by British Rail before MTL secured the franchise."

The number of cancellations on Regional Railways North East has at times even exceeded the cancellation rate on South West Rail, where the Stagecoach company has admitted that it made a misjudgment in laying off too many drivers. South West has paid out millions in compenbeen told it could lose its franchise unless performance



Caught on camera: the two masked men who held up eight women on Saturday

Police release video of armed **Tube robbers**

By STEWART TENDLER

POLICE hunning masked robbers who held up eight women at gunpoint on a late-night London Underground train released video pictures of the two men yesterday.

Bakerloo train at Harrow and Wealdstone, north London, and threatened one passenger. who was travelling alone, with a handgun before terrorising seven other women who had joined in a group at the next

stop.
Police believe the robbers carriage. The men fled at Willesden Junction station, after robbing the women of

As transport workers began pasting photographs of the two men at Tube stations around north London and Bakerloo line stations yesterday, police said the two men may have turned to robbery on a whim after running out of cash on a night out.

All the victims are foreign. including one who had lived in a Somali refugee camp, and Samrday night. Police said the two men had boarded the train about 11pm.

They had been seen talking to two young girls and had then climbed into a carriage where a 24-year-old Singapore accountancy student was sit-ting on her own. As the train pulled out the two men, aged between 17 and 20, pulled masks over their faces, drew out small black handguns, pointed them at the woman and demanded cash. She gave them £4 in small change and was then told by the gunmen to get off at the next station.

The two men stayed on the train. A group of seven women got on to a nearby carriage at Stonebridge Park. The seven included three Somalis, a Ugandan and three Ethiopians. They are all aged between their mid-20s and mid-30s and had been working on a casual shift in a local factory.

The first victim had raised the alarm and armed police raced to intercept the train, but the robbers had already dis

SATURDAY IN THE TIMES

A WORD IN YOUR EAR

Why life coaches are America's newest personal accessory

Weekend

PIPPED AT THE POST

Gazumping and how to avoid it

Weekend

Runway protesters take to the trees By Lin Jenkins

THE opening skirmishes in the battle of Manchester airport's second runway saw three arrests among protesters as they took to the trees to More than 50 officers were deployed after contractors spent a futile week trying to sink fenceposts around the site while under constant bornbardment from the protesters.

Anti-roads protesters and environmentalists have chosen the development to be the latest battleground in their campaign. One who calls himself "Inverness John" will appear before magistrates today, charged under his real name of John Wesley Davies. 32, with causing criminal damage to a video camera used by the contractors to record events. Two women were also arrested.

ing at the Newbury bypas climbed into the trees to defy the contractors. "These are the first trees here to come under threat," she said. "We can stay here as long as it takes." After an hour-long stand-off

the contractors moved away and began sinking fenceposts on the outskirts of the camp. Protesters delayed the work by "digger diving" the ICB, climbing on to the machine. only to be pulled off by security staff.

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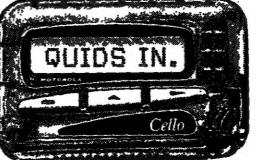
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Senior Tory urges rethink on nursery vouchers to cut red tape

EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

A SENIOR Conservative called yesterday for a complete rethink of the Government's nursery voucher scheme to save parents and schools from bureaucracy

Sir Malcolm Thornton, chairman of the Education and Employment Select Committee, said the vouchers, being sent to parents of 600,000 four-year-olds, should not be used for school reception classes.

Vouchers should be limited to younger four-year-olds and

should retain central funding to take children in the term they become five, saving parents the confusion of having to "buy" a place at their local primary school.

This would cut by a third the number of vouchers and substantially reduce the £120 million the system costs to run. Labour called his views a "body blow" to the nursery voucher policy, which John Major claimed would increase parental choice.

A widely leaked report from Sir Malcolm's committee yesterday criticised the scheme

education, he said. Schools classes to mushroom as they "hoovered up" four-year-olds. The report said it was quite wrong for young four-yearolds to attend reception classes and expressed concern that heads were putting pressure on parents to send them.

A dozen voluntary nurseries have been forced to close in Norfolk, one of the trial areas for vouchers, because they could not compete with recep-tion classes of unrestricted size. The Children Act limits nursery classes to 13 children

ments we make." Sir Malcolm said: "I would like to see a much tighter

children into primary and reception classes. Anybody going in over four years and nine months would not require a voucher, because they would then be eligible for

mainstream education. That would be a significant step forward, getting rid of an element of bureaucracy which primary schools have to face ... We don't say that in the [select committee] report, but you could logically tease that

out of it because of the com-

The cross-party report said the evidence was "inconcluLearning Alliance showed last month that a quarter of local authorities were planning to expand reception classes to compete for voucher money.

Robin Squire, the Schools Minister, said vouchers had not changed the trend of parents choosing reception classes. "Even before nursery vouchers were a smudge on the horizon a very high pro-portion of four-year-olds were being admitted into them. presumably because their parents wanted that." He denied they were detrimental to four-



Deborah Swift, of Fleet, Hampshire, with her children Victoria, 17, and Joseph, 16

Private school inspectors 'not tough enough'

By JOHN O'LEARY

INSPECTION reports on more than 1,000 independent schools often play down weaknesses and judge pupils' performance too leniently, the Office for Standards in Education said

Separate reports on the two inspection regimes for independent education concluded that inspectors gave a used by the Headmasters' and Head-mistresses' Conference (HMC), cover-ing 300 leading schools, was said to be comprehensive and not to shirk

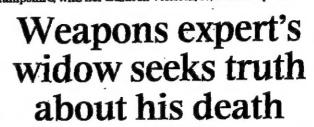
But the system used by most independent schools was said to relegate criticisms to the end of reports. Schools can choose whether to publish inspectors' findings and are allowed to release edited versions of the reports.

Ofsted's study of the Accreditation.

Review and Consultancy Service (ARCS) said there was a tendency to avoid criticising senior management. The visits, of only two days, were often not long enough. The report said: "In a disconcerting number of reports, and contrary to the requirements of ARCS. criticisms are relegated from the conclusions to the recommendations section. Her Majesty's Inspectors checking reports judged that those which

less forthright in their criticism

improvement."
The HMC's reports, taking twice as long to compile, are made available to parents in summary form. Some schools make them available in full. Both systems were criticised for failing to give sufficient attention to whether pupils should be doing better. Inspectors tended to judge performance against national norms, even when pupils were well above average ability.



BY MICHAEL EVANS

THE widow of an army major, who was killed in Oman while testing a new grenade, is still waiting for a full explanation of what happened to her husband.

Major Anthony Swift, 40, a weapons expert on second-ment in Oman, died in June 1994 when he fired a riflelaunched grenade which detonated prematurely. The explosion destroyed much of the evidence, and a board of inquiry held by the Omani Ministry of Defence in July 1994 found that the cause of

the detonation could not be determined conclusively. Ever since the accident, Major Swift's widow, Deborah, has been trying to find out the circumstances of her husband's death. She claims that the Ministry of Defence in London was not interested

She said she was told there would be a British Army board of inquiry. When she discovered the Omanis had carried out the inquiry, she was informed this was because her husband was on loan to the Royal Army of Oman for whom the grenade, developed by the Australian Defence

Industries, was being tested. However, when she started a legal claim against the

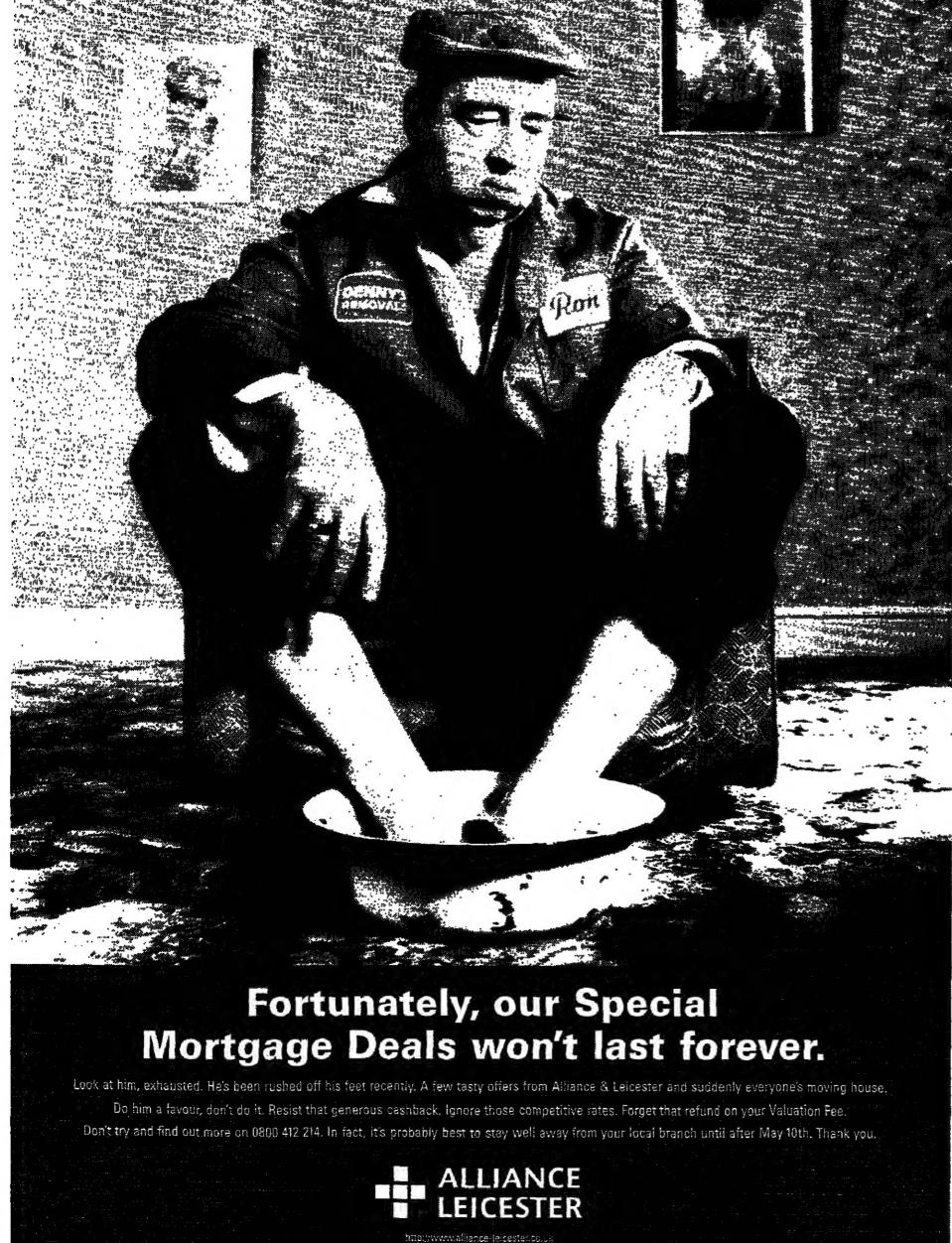


on Oman secondment

Omani Ministry of Defence, she received a letter from the ministry in Muscat which said: "Any such claim against the Royal Army of Oman is both ill-conceived and ill-founded. Major Swift was at all times a serving member and employee of the British Army ... any claim or griev should be directed to UK Ministry of Defence."

Although she was sent a copy of the Omani report, sections had been removed on

the ground of confidentiality. Mrs Swift, of Fleet, in Hampshire, said yesterday: My husband was exonerated of any blame, so there must have been a fault with the grenade. I have to find out what happened before I can get on with my life."

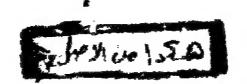


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Land famine silences Army's big guns

By MICHAEL EVANS DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE Army cannot practise properly with its new high-tech weapons because training land in Britain is heavily restricted and overseas plots are too expensive, according to a report published yesterday. The Army's Land Command says that Britain needs 83,000 more hectares (205,000 acres) of military land.

With 70 per cent of the Army now based at home, this was posing a serious problem, army sources said. Even though the deficit was offset by

A CAMPAIGN against the

creeping disfigurement of the

countryside was launched yes-

terday with an appeal for the

public to expose intrusive road

signs, garish rural architecture and insensitively sited

wind turbines and mobile

The Council for the Protec-

tion of Rural England (CPRE)

is compiling a dossier of the

worst examples of countryside

clutter to encourage the Gov-ernment and local authorities

to introduce tougher planning

head of planning, said: "We will be appealing to the public

to report on the most intrusive types of development that are blurring the distinction be-

tween town and countryside

and threatening areas of natu-

concerned by the growing number of wind turbines and

mobile telephone masts, often

sited on high ground. There

are about 35 wind farms,

many of them in beautiful areas of Wales, Cornwall,

Yorkshire and Cumbria. They

have a total of nearly 630 turbines up to 200ft in height. Last month the Department of

Trade and Industry granted

contracts to 65 more wind-energy projects, which will add 1,100 turbines to the

Wind farms, which are sub-

sidised by the Government,

L MERCURY

The CPRE is particularly

ral beauty.

landscape.

Neil Sinden, the CPRE's

telephone masts.

Public enlisted

in fight against

country clutter

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, COUNTRYSIDE CORRESPONDENT

ation hopes that they will

supply 10 per cent of total demand by 2025, which would

require an estimated 10,000

The CPRE argues that the visual impact is disproportion-

ate to the energy output. But

Peter Edwards, chairman of

the wind energy association, said: "Every form of energy

generation has its drawbacks

but harnessing wind power has far fewer than most."

communications masts, with a

further 3,000 expected in the

next few years. In the 1980s

the Government passed legis-lation that relaxed the plan-

ning process to encourage the mobile telephone networks to

develop. But Mr Sinden said:

"Planning controls must be

tightened. As things stand,

provided the masts are less

than 15 metres in height, full

planning controls do not

apply. Although local authori-

ties have some say over the

design and location of masts,

it is difficult for them to refuse

There are up to 8.000 tele-

exercises in such countries as Canada and Poland, equivalent to 27,000 hectares, by other operational commitments which reduced the demand for training at home and by an increased use of private land, there was still a shortfall of about 39,000 hectares, which was bigger than the Salisbury Plain training

Army sources said there were concerns about the Army's ability to train for high-intensity war, espe-cially among artillery and armoured units equipped with advanced weapon systems such as the

AS90 gun and the multiple launch

The Defence Ministry wants to fire these longer-range guns in the Otterburn training area in Northumberland National Park and there will be a planning inquiry soon. To mount an exercise involving an armoured brigade, the Army needs an area measuring about 25 miles by 15 miles. Post-Cold War restrictions on training has made this "just not realistic", the report says. Although more training areas were being made available overseas, especially in eastern Europe, it was

far afield.

Writing in the report, Striking a Balance 1997, Lieutenant-General Sir Hew Pike, Deputy Commanderin-Chief of Land Command. said: Those who suggest that we should look only outside the UK for training areas fail to understand a vital point — that it is the responsibility of our nation to provide its Armed Forces with the facilities to

He said it was "both unreasonable and short-sighted to rely on the goodwill of our neighbours and

expensive to send tanks and guns so allies to provide training lands for our needs".

The Army is trying to make maximum use of the available land in Britain, with a programme of infilling between training areas to increase the overall acreage. Three disused RAF air bases at Caerwent in Monmouthshire, Sculthorpe in Norfolk and Woodbridge in Suffolk are also going to be used for army training.

The report says that there are eight categories of training that require land, including armoured live firing, armoured manoeuvres. nuclear biological and chemical warfare and fighting in built-up

It says the development of facilities at Onerburn for training in the AS90 and multiple launch rocker system was essential to help to remedy the shortfalls in land for field-firing exercises. To help to meet public criticism of the noise of live firing, the Army is planning to introduce a a computerised system called gunfire noise analysis tool. which predicts noise levels for every type of shell in different weather

Hosepipe bans likely after two dry years

By MICHAEL HORNSBY COUNTRYSIDE CORRESPONDENT

EAST and southeast England face a water crisis this summer, a government body said yesterday. After almost two years of low rainfall - the driest period for 150 years underground water sources are in some places at the

lowest ever recorded.

April 1995 was the last time that reservoirs and groundwa-ter sources were full, a report by the Environment Agency said. Between then and January of this year, 360 mm less rain than average fell in England and Wales. That is equivalent to losing four full months of winter rainfall.

Hosepipe bans and other curbs on water use are likely to be necessary in east and southeast England, which depend on groundwater sources for between a third and two thirds of their supplies, ac-

cording to the agency.

Since April 1995 there have Christian churches in Britbeen only five months of above ain." Some 5th-century timaverage rainfall. The period up to the end of January 1997 was the driest since the 1850s." the report says. A wetter February brought some relief but March has so far been

drier than average.

Geoff Mance, the agency's head of water management, said: "Particular concern is focused on the South and South-East. We will be monitoring water company performance closely to ensure appropriate action is taken to manage the situation and avoid damaging the environment."

Challenge on baton man's death

NEWS IN LEGIS

The family of Brian Douglas 33, who died after a confrontation with two police officers equipped with US-style hatons, has won permission to challenge an inquest jury's misadventure verdict.

A High Court judge gave leave for a judicial review application, when it will be argued that the coroner was wrong to let the jury hear evidence of Mr Douglas's convictions. He had been arrested in south London on suspicion of being under the influence of drugs and drink.

Stagg appeal

Diane Stagg, whose husband, Colin, was cleared of the murder of Rachel Nickell, lost an appeal at Kingston Crown Court against a two-month prison sentence for assaulting two police officers,

Kilroy-Silk wins

The broadcaster Robert Kilroy-Silk accepted a public apology and substantial un-disclosed libel damages at the High Court, over allegations by the Tory MP Warren Hawksley of political bias.

£80,000 for

solicitor in

newspaper

libel case

Defensive gesture

The Defence Ministry is selling Haymes Garth. Gloucestershire, the former home of Air Chief Marshal Sir Sandy Wilson, who resigned in 1995 after a refurbshment bill ex-ceeded the budget by £120,000.

Sticky solution

Aberdeen is helping to pioneer a process using frozen carbon dioxide to clear chewing gum from pavements. It is spending £8.000 on testing the system, which is being closely observed by other cities.

Jean Brodie prize

Dame Muriel Spark has given £10,000 won in a literary prize to James Gillespie's



Andy Payne, an English Heritage archaeologist, maps the outline of a forum building with a magnetometer

'Virtual spades' uncover Roman city

planning permission."

Orange, one of the biggest mobile phone companies, is experimenting with camouflaging masts to make them resemble trees. The first such mast has been erected near the Lake District town of

Cockermouth. Other targets of the CPRE campaign include excessively bright road and village lighting, garish facades on restaucontribute less than 1 per cent to total energy supplies. The British Wind Energy Associrants and garages, and insensitive siting of telephone

FIRST it was virtual reality, now it is virtual spadework. For two days, English Heritage is inviting visitors to look beneath the soil of the Shropshire village of Wroxeter at the remains of the Roman city Viroconium (Marcus Birmey writes). In its prime the city was the

fourth largest in these islands and its 140 acres have been described as Britain's Pompeii. The remains have survived virtually untouched beneath pastures for over 1,500 years. Archaeologists are demonstrating new techniques for using ground-penetrating radar and magnetometers, which enable them to chart

the position of long-buried

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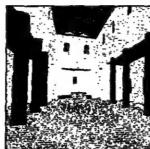
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The interior and exterior of the church recreated

streets and buildings. Dr Andrew David, head of Archaeometry at English Heritage, who is working with teams from the universities of Birmingham and Bradford, says: "In the next

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few weeks we will have a complete street atlas of the town, showing the grid pattern of the streets, and the alignment of buildings including large houses. "One of our most exciting

work techniques to map sites without the need to dig them up and thereby damage them. Magnetometers respond to slight changes in the magnet field of the soil, especially those caused by burnt re-mains. They can identify clay structures such as pottery kilns, hearths and ovens. The site remains open to the

public today.

finds has been traces of a

structure resembling a stone

church, nearly 100ft long, and

potentially one of the first

ber buildings may have been

erected after the Romans left.

English Heritage has adopted the virtual spade-



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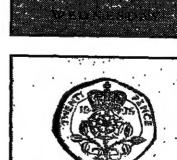


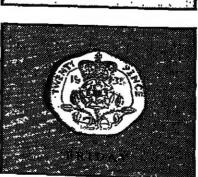
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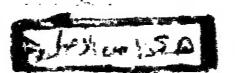
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High School in Edinburgh, on which she based her 1961 novel The Prime of Miss Jean Award page 24 Tail piece A terrier depicted on a popular Irish postcard smoking a pipe while sitting on a donkey has been reunited with its owner. Judy had run off while Tony Garrahy, 82, kept a Dublin hospital appointment.

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Being Princess's double was not a job to dye for

By Kathryn Knight

A WOMAN who has made a lucrative career out of looking like Diana, Princess of Wales, has decided to retire after ten years because of the strain of

living in the public eye. Christina Hance, 36, who earned up to £5,000 a day as an impersonator, said yesterday that she could no longer cope with the constant attention and had found herself suffering the same domestic and health problems as her royal alter ego.

Ms Hance, from St Neots,

Cambridgeshire, is packing away her tiara and plans to dye her blonde highlights black to ensure she is no longer mistaken for the Princess. "Being Diana sent me mad and made me very ill. The first five years were total excitement, but I ended up like a zombie," she said yesterday. "It means I can't go anywhere without attracting attention. The lack of privacy has been difficult to deal

Ms Hance was working as a secretary when her boyfriend sent her photograph to a television competition ten years ago. She was immediately offered a steady stream

The Princess: alter ego suffered same problems

of work and, over the years, she has learnt to imitate the Princess's mannerisms through studying newspaper and

However, she said her health suffered with the Princess's. "The strain of publie life has been too much for both of us. As Diana suffered so did 1 — our lives followed the same pattern. I developed irritable bowel syndrome from not eating properly, took anti-depressants to cope with violent mood swings.

"My weight was going up and down and I found it difficult to sleep. I felt my going.

Her marriage ended in divorce and her last relation-ship ended when her boyfriend was unable to cope with her double lifestyle. During many jobs, she said, she was treated as if she were the Princess. A lot of jobs were set up as if I were the real Diana. I travelled in limousines and private jets and was

given a bodyguard.
"I lived the life of a princess for a day and then went home to do the washing up. It was very hard to adjust to that. The lack of privacy has been difficult to deal with because people don't just look at me. they stare."

Last year Ms Hance was one of two lookalikes to appear in a videotape apparently showing the Princess cavorting at Highgrove with Major James Hewitt. Ms Hance believed that she was making a sketch for a new satirical television show, but stills were later used to fool The Sun, which published them as genuine. Ms Hance is setting up a

business distributing aloe vera gel. "I won't miss the business. There was no real

1,800 students chase 120 places on new Bar school course

By Frances Gibb, legal correspondent

INTENSE competition enter the Bar was revealed yesterday by figures showing that 1,800 students have app-lied for 120 places on the new Bar vocational course being run by the College of Law in

It is the first time that institutions other than the Inns of Court School of Law have been allowed to offer the one-year vocational course which barristers have to pass before they can seek a traineeship in chambers, or pupillage. The first offers will be sent out this week through the Bar Council. The College of Law is the biggest organisation for training solicitors in Europe with branches in London, Guildford, York and Chester. The course has been devised with the help of an advisory board chaired by a High Court judge, Mr Justice Lightman, and including Cherie Booth, QC.

The figures coincide with the first analysis of the offers made in recent months by chambers to the students who have completed the Bar vocational course. The offers have been made through the Bar's first clearing-house scheme, which has attracted criticism from students who said that all first-round offers went to 25 per cent of students. A breakdown of the figures shows that it is far harder for ethnic minority candidates of both sexes to obtain an offer than for white candidates. It is also easier for younger candi-

dates to obtain offers. Some 855 white males applied for pupillages, which was 49.5 per cent of the total of 1,727 applicants, and 499 of them received offers (52.3 per cent of the total). White females did better: 523 applied (30.3 per cent) and 340 (35.6 per cent) obtained offers. Of the ethnic minority students. 176 males and 173 females (10.2 per cent and 10 per cent) applied for pupillages and 58 and 57 respectively (about 6

per cent) received offers. The older the applicants, the worse they fared. The 44 per cent of applicants under 25 com-manded more than 65 per cent of the offers, while the 17 per cent in the age range 31 to 40 commanded just over 9 per cent, and the 5 per cent who were aged between 41 and 50 commanded only 1.3 per cent. Robert Owen, QC, chair-man of the Bar, said the

disproportionate number of

was because of "the demands of the market", rather than a consequence of the system. But he said the Bar would be studying the figures to see if any action could be taken. Yesterday the scheme was dealt a fresh blow when one of the most prestigious sets of chambers, 2 Hare Court, nulled out because it felt

students had no certainty of

Law Report, page 42

£80,000 for solicitor in newspaper libel case

By A STAFF REPORTER

A SOLICITOR at the heart of a High Court libel action over brainwashing allegations settled his claim against The Daily Telegraph for £80,000 vesterday.

Stephen Kirby accepted the sum as damages, plus his legal costs and a public apology, before a jury, which on Tuesday found in his favour, went on to assess an award.

Mr Kirby had sued the newspaper with Richard Wilmot-Smith, QC, and his wife, Jenny, a psychic healer, over an article in 1995 headlined 'Dark side of the New Age". They said the report made it appear that Mr Kirby had been brainwashed into leaving his family.

Mr Kirby, 41, from Islington, north London, separated from his wife. Clare, ten months after he first consulted Mrs Wilmot-Smith about headaches. He and his wife have two children.

The newspaper and Mrs Kirby, who was sued by the Wilmot-Smiths alone, denied libel and pleaded justification. On Tuesday the jury awarded Mr Wilmot-Smith £250,000 and his wife £100,000. The newspaper also has to pay an estimated costs bill of more

Indonesia arms deals challenged in court

By A STAFF REPORTER

THE first legal challenge to the Government's defence export policy was launched in

the High Court yesterday.

An alliance of pressure groups is seeking to have the Government's approval of arms sales to Indonesia declared unlawful and has applied for a judicial review. A judge will now decide whether there is "an arguable case".

The challenge is being led by the World Development

more equipment." The Department of Trade and Industry said that the licences were issued "in the light of established and internationally agreed criteria for military exports".

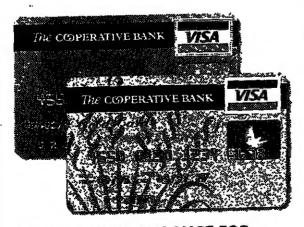


Movement with the support of the Campaign Against the Arms Trade and the Indonesia Human Rights Campaign. The groups claim that Britishmade arms have been used against peaceful demon-strators. Harriet Lamb, a spokeswoman for the campaign, said: "All the evidence shows that Indonesia is guilty recent serious human equipment has been misused in perpetuating these abuses. The evidence also shows the Government knew this, and yet they granted licences for



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More than one third of women abstain from sex

SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE British are much less sexually active than suggested by glossy magazines, the advertising industry and television dramas. While the new series of BBC2's This Life depicts a group of young solicitors bed-hopping, the reality is far less exciting, according to the latest General Household Survey.

Thirty-nine per cent of un-married females are chaste, along with 34 per cent of widowed, divorced and separated women, according to the most comprehensive government survey of lifestyles. By contrast, 99 per cent of married or cohabiting women have an active sex life. The figures were obtained by questioning 5,067 women aged 16 to 40 about their use of contraceptives.

Researchers discovered that 28 per cent of women did not

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

THE poorest people are far more likely to

lose their teeth than the affluent. By the

age of 74, 59 per cent of people who had been unskilled manual workers were

toothless, compared with 18 per cent among the professional classes.

There is also a striking geographical inequality in dental health. Nearly one in

four of all Scots have no teeth, and more

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This Life's Egg and Milly. Real life is less sensual

The reasons for the geographical varia-

tions are uncertain; Scots are more likely

to go for a regular dental check than the

English. The social reasons for tooth loss

are more obvious: professional people are most likely to have checks and manual

Good habits are passed down among

families. The main factor deciding wheth-

ship. At 18 and 19, the figure those did not have a sexual relationship. Despite the excitfell to 37 per cent and among ing image of teenage life portrayed by youth magazines, young people have the

least sex of any age group.

Teenagers are far less likely to be sexually active than their middle-aged mothers. Among 16 and 17-year-old girls, 64 per practise contraception. Half of cent had no sexual relation-Scots and poor have more false teeth

workers the least.

20 to 24-year-olds it was 20 per Between the ages of 25 and 49 sexual activity reaches its peak, with 90 per cent or more types of women who are likely to have no sex are on the increase. The proportion of

the South East, only 10 per cent of the population are toothless.

Dental hygiene is improving overall, with only 15 per cent of all Britons being

single women has risen by half since 1979, reaching 28 per cent. Divorcees have doubled from 4 per cent to 9 per cent.

The use of condoms is still increasing as health educators promote them as protection against Aids. Among 18 and 19-year-olds, 26 per cent use a condom, compared with 6 per cent in 1986.

There has, however, been a fall in the proportion of 16 and 17-year-olds practising safer sex, from 17 per cent in 1993 to 13 per cent. This may be because the predicted Aids plague, which experts used in the 1980s to frighten sexually active people into changing their habits, did not happen.

The Pill is the favourite method of contraception, used by 25 per cent of women and most popular among those in their 20s and single. Sterilisation is used by 24 per cent of couples, mostly married. Emergency contraception, usually morning-after Pill, is used by 7 per cent of women and is favoured by under-30s.

toothless, compared with 26 per cent in

1983. The proportion of people who have

bought private medical insurance has doubled to 6 per cent since 1983. The General Household Survey also discloses an increase in the number of

How they made a meal of manners in 1791 BY JOHN VINCENT

DINNER party hosts agonising over where to seat guests might spare a thought for their high-society counterparts of the 18th century.

Giving a successful banquet required a keen awareness of precedence and attention to the minutiae of table manners, carving, servants' behav-iour, small-talk and dress. A rare example of a 1791

guide to ease the way into genteel society of the aspiring host or hostess has emerged from a private library coming onto the auction market. The Honours of the Table,

or Rules for behaviour dur-ing meals with the whole art of carving ... for the use of young people, by John Trusler, is expected to fetch up to £500 at Christie's tomorow. Rupert Neelands, of Chris-

tie's, said yesterday: "The rules in those days were very complicated. For instance, the host and hostess had to go on eating as long as the last guest was eating. They had to plough on or it was consid-

Trusler writes: "When dinner is announced, the mistress of the house requests the lady first in rank to shew the way to the rest, and walk first into the room. She then asks the second in precedence to follow, and after all the ladies are passed, she brings up the rear herself. The master of the



Entertaining in the 18th century required keen attention to the minutiae

house does the same with the

Seating is simple: "The mistress of the table sits at the upper-end, those of superior rank next her, right and left, those next in rank following, then the gentlemen, and the master at the lower end."

Eating and drinking required care and Truster's advice could still apply in some quarters today. Eating a great deal is indelicate to a ady (for her character should be rather divine than sensual) so it will be ill-mannered to help her to a large slice of meat at once, or fill her plate too full. As it is unseemly for ladies to call for wine, the

agreeable to drink a glass." Trusler concludes with "valuable hints" for

gentlemen present should ask

them in turn whether it is

hosts. "Shew in every thing a modesty. Be not always speaking of yourself, be not bashful, be not forward, boast not, angle not for praise."

Aspiring party-givers are advised "on all occasions to keep up good breeding, to be remarkable for cleanliness of person, to attend to your address and phraseology and small-talk". He concludes: "Use fashionable language."

men who have a hearing difficulty, but do not wear a hearing aid. In 1979, 82 per cent of men aged 45 to 64 had no hearing problems, compared with 77 per cent than a fifth of people in Yorkshire. er a child will go to the dentist regularly is However, around Greater London and whether the child's mother does so. SEE OUR INCREDIBLE SAVINGS ON BIND OF LINE, EX-DISPLAY AND DISCONTINUED MODELS THOUSANDS OF ITEMS AT NEVER-TO-BE-REPEATED HURRYI LIMITED STOCKS FROM UNDER £180 SA LYO SEX33 TELEPHONE/ Copy function. 28 memories. ON TOP BRAND FAXES TEREST FREE OPTION* ON EVERYTHING OVER £100 GoldStar WHEN YOU PROTECT YOUR PURCHASES WITH TELEPHONE/ HERRY TO BE A STREET MACHINE 10 sheet automatic **Panasonic** KXF2700 TELEPHONE/ 9 FAX/ **ANSWERING** Panasonic UFSI MACHINE 15 document TELEPHONE/FAX/ auto feeder. answering machini Integrated digital Hands-free answering machine. speakerphone. Copier function.



Health plan fails to curb smoking By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT GROUP of MPs criticised cer and heart disease. "We the Department of Health look to the department, togethyesterday for its failure to curb er with the Department of the the rise in teenage smoking. Environment and the Department of Education and Em-The Commons Public Accounts Committee said it was ployment, to explore what "dismayed" by the increase, further action can be taken to from 8 per cent to 12 per cent of reverse this trend," it said. 11 to 15-year-olds in the two The committee, echoing the years to 1994. The target was a report by the National Audit reduction to 6 per cent under the Health of the Nation Office last year, said there had been good progress towards 11 strategy. Labour seized on the report. of the 27 targets, especially on heart disease, stroke and some

challenging Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, to ban tobacco advertising and call-Tory party chairman, to declare the amount of money the Conservatives receive from the tobacco industry. The committee, which examined progress towards the

27 targets set under the Health of the Nation strategy

cancers. However, key targets on obesity and women's drinking were being missed. The turbed" by a rise in adult obesity of more than a third. By 1994, 16 per cent of women were rated obese, as were 13 per cent of men. It was also concerned about the rise in the number of women drinking more than 14 units of alcohol a

Children defy TV's watershed

By Alexandra Frean

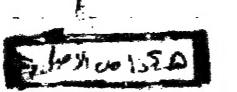
NEARLY half of British children aged five and six claim that at weekends they watch television later than the 9pm rial meant for adults is broadcast, according to research

published today. The survey, conducted by the Norwich-based market research company SMRC Childwise, shows that more than a fifth of five and six-year-olds claim that they even watch television after 9pm during. the week. Rosemary Duff, one of the study's authors, said that parents were increasingly unable or unwilling to prevent their children watching after the watershed.

As more than half of children aged five to fourteen have a television in their bedroom and nearly a fifth have their own video recorder, it is







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Reform of Lords spells end of great political dynasties

Clement Attlee once said that if he ever ended up as a peer he would take the title Lord Luvaduck. He did indeed take an earldom when he retired. but, to the disappointment of all, chose against the name.

His grandson Earl Attlee. who has just joined the Conservatives from the crossbenches, would be among some of the most distinguished political dynasties of the past 700 years to lose their voting rights in the House of Lords if Labour and Liberal Democrat proposals for electoral reform go ahead.

Under the plans, hereditary peers would lose their right to sit, speak and vote in the Lords. "Club rights", allowing them to use the bars and restaurants, might be offered as a sweetener to soften the

Viscount Cranborne, John



Attlee: took an earldom

Major's chief of staff during the election, who is part of the Cecil family, would be a highprofile casualty, along with the Liberal Democrat Earl Russell, son of Bertrand Russell, and the Earl of Carnarvon, a crossbencher, who is racing manager to the Queen.

It was Lord Carnarvon's grandfather, the 5th earl. whose passion for Egyptology led to the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb in 1922. The current earl shares his grandfather's other great interests, horses and racing, and is only an occasional attender in the Lords.

By contrast, the 5th Earl Russell is one of the most active hereditary peers and a supporter of reform. He is a highly effective spokesman on social security. In 1834 his great-grandfather, John Russell, was among the Whigs who pushed the Great Reform Act through Parliament and went on to become Prime

inevitable, but they do not agree on what form it should take, Ruth Winstone writes

achievements, his two grandsons, of whom Bertrand was one, accumulated a total of seven wives.

The present earl is convinced that another period of reform is essential, and one which would end his family's long connections with the Lords. It is proportional representation and the need to control the executive, as much as the removal of the hereditary principle, that underlies his support for reform, "Westminster is a sandcastle with the tide lapping round it and the House of Commons is becoming more and more isolated," he said.

The Government, he believes, is the most centralised and least controlled of any in the Western world. The importance of a reformed Lords must rest on the checks it here the Opposition in the Commons has failed.

Robin Cook, chairman of Labour's policy forum, has suggested that the replacement of hereditary peers by newly created life peerages would, over the course of a Parliament, ensure that the balance in the Lords reflected the proportion of votes cast for each party in an election. But replacing the hereditary

principle by one which offered more patronage to the Prime Minister and party leaders — an ermine-clad quango — is the worse solution for Lord Cranborne, the Leader of the House of Lords.

Reform, to which he is not opposed, should produce a second chamber which was independent, not in elective competition with the Commons and not susceptible to corruption. The current proposals are, he believes, muddled, and a Lords filled with life peers on a proportional basis, could be used by a government as "a poodle", to quote Lloyd George in an

earlier constitutional battle. Also facing exclusion would be the Countess of Mar, one of ló women who sit in the Lords through succession. She was working for the Post Office when she inherited the title in 1975. She has described herself "the most ordinary aristocrat in Britain".

As a regular attender on the cross benches, she might find

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■ Many in the Lords accept that change is

herself among the group of hard-working peers who will be granted life peerages, in parallel with their hereditary titles, to continue to sit.

However, if the long-term intention is to produce a democratic and representative chamber, a reforming administration might do well to recall the preamble of the 1911 Parliament Act, the most sig-nificant reform of the 20th century passed by Asquith and Lloyd George, which envisaged the abolition of the Lords and its replacement "constituted on a popular basis" at some future date. Eighty-six years later the Lords is alive and well.





1956; two sons, one daughter. Member of the Jockey Club; formerly







Aged 56; mamed Edwin Noel Artiss dissolved 1981), John cad



after leaving Commons

Minister. Among other family

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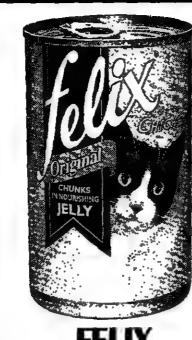
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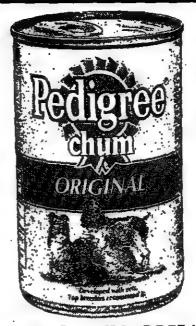
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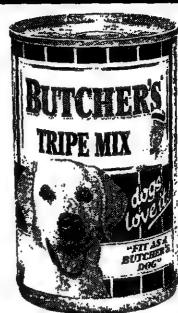
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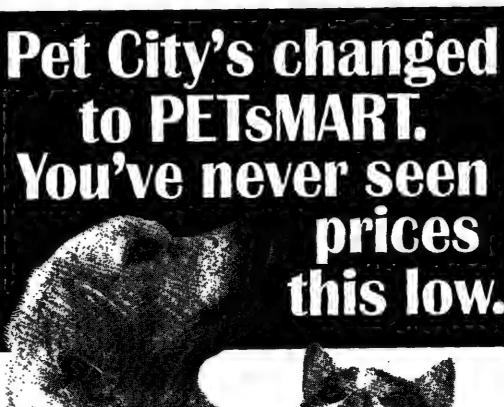
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RING FOR YOUR NEAREST STORE

Cup of tea

may land

hopeful in

hot water

By VALERIE ELLIOTT WHITEHALL EDITOR

CANDIDATES are to face greater scrutiny of their elec-

tion expenses than ever before

after a decision to increase campaign spending limits.

The uprating was approved

by an Order in Parliament this

week, and with such a lengthy

election campaign, candidates

will be under great pressure to

£500,000 fund for Tory candi-

dates opposed to the single

currency, are not barred. But

the amount must be included

The largest seat is the Isle of

Wight, with 102,000 voters.

Candidates there will be able

to spend about £10,600 each

on their campaign; in the

Western Isles, with 25,000

voters, the total sum will be

about £6,355. Each candidate

is allowed to spend £4,965 and

may then add to that 5.6p for

every voter in the constituency

if it is a county seat, or 4.2p per

also gone up, from £18,572

plus 20.8p per voter in a

Limits for by-elections have

voter if it is a borough.

within the limit.

stay within the limits.

ANTI-ABORTIONISTS yesterday threatened legal action if broadcasters refuse to show an election video featuring graphic footage of dead human foetuses.

The Prolife Alliance, which is entitled to one five-minute party election broadcast, claimed the shocking video was no worse than scenes broadcast on television recently from Rwanda and Bosnia, The film will be viewed over the next few days by an editorial policy unit at the BBC and by producers from ITV, Channel 4 and Channel 5. All material broacast must conform with standards of taste and decency set by the BBC and the Independent Television Commision.

The proposed broadcast shows remains of aborted embryos at varying stages of development. The remains were found dumped outside an abortion clinic in Houston, Texas, according to the Alli-ance, Bruno Quintavalle, director of the Alliance, said he was confident the video would he shown uncut.

There are standards on taste and decency but if any censorship is attempted we we have strong grounds for objecting. We have lawyers who will take it further," he said. "I think it'll be difficult to have an objection to this film."

Mr Quintavalle, 25. whose mother runs the anti-abortion pressure group Life, admitted that the film would not be

By JOHN O'LEARY

AND JILL SHERMAN

TONY BLAIR accused the

Government of complacency

over unemployment vester-

day, predicting soaring wel-

fare bills in spite of the recent

improvement in the jobless figures if firm action was not

taken to put young people to

The Labour leader, on a

visit to the Automotive train-



Quintavalle: confident that video will be uncut

and said he hoped it would be broadcast after 9pm. The BBC is required not to broadcast programmes that "include anything which offends against good taste or decency or is likely to encourage or incite crime ... or be offensive

to public feeling".
The ITC said it was up to ITV, Channel 4 and Channel 5 to decide whether the video breached guidelines on taste. ITV said: "We haven't seen the film yet but all programmes have to conform with the ITC's

The Prolife Alliance is entitled to make one five-minute broadcast because it is fielding more than 50 candidates in the general election. The rules governing election broadcasts are established by the Committee on Party Political Broadcasts which is made up

of MPs and broadcasters. The Alliance, which is opaccused of "sensationalism"

said people were rightly suspi-cious of government statistics

which showed a drop of 68,000

out of work last month. Al-

though many people were no

longer eligible to claim bene-

fit, the figures were still far

higher than when the Conser-

"Ministers are far too com-

placent about this," Mr Blair

said. "They are getting the

figures down, but often by

vatives came to office.

visit to the Automotive train-ing centre in Birmingham, late the numbers." Labour

Ann Furendi, director of the charity which gives advice on contraception, said: "It is unlikely that very many people will decide to vote on any single issue. Screening this video is likely to turn people away rather than at-

The Alliance, which was founded last November, received a blow this month when Mohamed Al Fayed. chairman of Harrods, withdrew a pledge of financial support after protests outside the store by pro-choice groups.
The Alliance said its campaign was funded entirely by indi-viduals and would cost less than £100,000.

It is a secular organisation that has no "overt association" with any religious group, although many members are

The Alliance is fielding candidates in seats including those of the Heritage Secre-tary Virginia Bottomley, the Scottish Secretary Michael Forsyth and John Prescott, the Labour deputy leader.

Ken Livingstone, the Labour MP whose Brent East seat will see a challenge from the Alliance, said the American film was "inappropriate" and showing it would be counterproductive. Ann Winterton. Tory MP for Congleton, dis-tanced herself from the Alliance but said it was right for viewers to see such films.

would concentrate on improv-

ing the skills of the workforce

and harnessing technology to

give people genuine jobs. The

message we want to get across

is that if we carry on with

these high levels of structural

unemployment, which don't

show up in the figures a lot of the time, we will end up with

Mr Blair promised an ex-

pansion of training centres such as the one he visited. He

praised trainees' communica-

soaring welfare bills."

At a preview of the film in London yesterday Mr Quintavalle insisted that journalists watch shots of an abortion. Those scenes will be cut from

forward to meeting as many people as possible - on council estates and in owns and cities."

The Conservatives will use a British Midland 737 passenger jet to take John Major, his soapbox, and assorted journalists to and from constituencies some distance from London. A "hattle bus" from the Wallace Arnold coach company will ferry Mr Major around once he has arrived at his destination. Both the plane and the coach are fitted with high-tech equipment to ensure Mr Major is kept in touch with his campaign team at Conservative Central Office and with officials in Downing Street.

Sir Michael Bishop, chief executive of British Midland and a long-time Tory supporter, said he had been approached by Central Office just after Christmas during the 1992 election campaign.

Unlike Mr Major. Mr Blair has yet to their own travel arrangements.

leader. is expected to use his battle bus for the first time on Monday. He will be flying to some destinations during the campaign: many of the Liberal Democrats' target seats are in far-flung parts of the country, from Cornwall to Scotland.

make use of his battle bus, on which journalists will accompany him. On the campaign visits he has made since the election was announced, to London and Birmingham, journalists have made Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat

and asked if the company had an aircraft available for campaigning. "The aircraft is being provided on an agreed commercial basis," he said. British Midland provided the Conservatives with a plane

county seat, or 15.8p per voter in a borough seat, to £19,863 plus 22.2p in county seats and 16.9p in boroughs. Election campaigns are a tricky period for would-be MPs. One of the main difficulties is that candidates can

rarely buy as much as a cup of tea or a drink or even a sandwich for anyone during the campaign. "Treating" - providing food, drink or entertainment to influence a voter or voters - is forbidden as a corrupt practice.

A former MP said last night that he would not even buy drinks for his campaign team in case the sum was included in his election expenses.



John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader, preparing to board his campaign coach in Bristol yesterday morning

Labour launches the Prescott Express

By POLLY NEWTON POLITICAL REPORTER

THE Prescott Express, carrying Labour's deputy leader on his 10,000-mile tour of marginal constituencies, took to the road yesterday. John Prescott boarded the red and black coach in Bristol after taking a rail trip round Labour's target seats in Devon and Cornwall on Tuesday.

The campaign bus, equipped with a mobile office and emblazoned with the slogan "It's good to vote", will take the deputy Labour leader as far north as Inverness. Mr Prescott, dubbed "Mr Motivator" by Tony Blair after GMTV's roving fitness instructor, said: "It is a high-profile campaign. I aim to tellpeople about this election and how

Blair accuses Tories of complacency over young jobless

The trainees, in turn, gave Mr Blair an enthusiastic rethe car industry. ception, including a spontane-Mr Blair later returned to ous round of applause in the work's canteen.

Andrew Stevenson, a 19year-old trainee in vehicle body repairs, said he had been persuaded to vote Labour. "He came across as very down to earth and determined to do

tion skills, which he said

would improve their employ-

ment prospects together with

their new qualifications.

what he promises." The training centre, part of Handsworth College, has up to 800 trainees a week taking vocational qualifications for

Westminster to rally the Parliamentary Labour Party claiming that all wings were Speaking at the PLP's last

meeting before the election he said: "It is an historic and exciting time for the Labour Party and we all hope that this is the last time that we will be meeting here in the House of Commons as an Opposition party, after 18 long years."

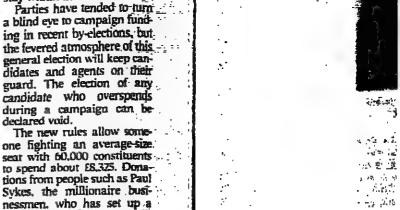
Mr Blair said he firmly

believed in the changes he had brought about since he became leader in July 1994 and he thanked those who had been less enthusiastic but had still supported him.

He described party left-wingers as "team players" and said old and new Labour were

now pulling together. The Tories were now the party of division and Labour Party the "party of the united". The Tories' inability to run their party made voters doubt their ability to run the country.

He told MPs that the Tories had twice as much money to spend on their campaign as Labour. Party managers estimate that the Conservatives have £30-£40 million in campaign funds while Labour has El0m-El5 million.



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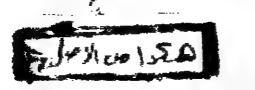
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Suffragette MP inspires Major's soapbox stand

NANCY ASTOR, the American-born firebrand of the women's suffrage movement, inspired John Major's electioneering style. The Prime Minister expressed his admiration yesterday for the sharptongued campaigner as he described his preference for her style of marketplace campaigning rather than engag-

ing in television banter. Mr Major disclosed his hankering for a bygone age of electioneering three days after he accepted Tony Blair's challenge to take part in Britain's first televised party leaders' debate.

In a discussion with 40 public school pupils, Mr Ma-jor expanded on the thinking that has led him to use a soapbox. His campaign style used to be the way of politics before television and radio interfered and turned it into a contest on the box in the corner of the living room. I prefer the rumbustious nature of our politics, and so did Nancy Astor."

Lady Astor, whom he described a "formidable lady in every respect", sat as an MP for more than 25 years after becoming the first woman to take a seat in the Commons, in 1919. She had a reputation as a political volcano, exploding intermittently on a range of issues ranging from women's pay to the "mumbojumbo" of those who sat in the Lords. Mr Major enthusiasti-



John Major yesterday and Nancy Astor, the "formidable lady" whose style he so admired

with a tale of Lady Astor's putdown to a farmer who tried to catch her out by asking her how many toes a pig had. She replied: "Take off your boots and count your toes."

But the Prime Minister, who on the opening day of campaigning went on a walkabout in Luton that came close to mayhem, yesterday chose the more genteel surroundings of Pangbourne College, the 375-pupil school in

Mr Major chatted to pupils who demonstrated a range of outdoor pursuits taught at the school, which traditionally

his home after complaining of bullying. Although the visit offered the Prime Minister an early break from the hurly-burly of soapbox campaigning, he took the opportunity to attack Labour's education policies after the party had forced ministers to drop measures aimed at increasing selection by schools. "Now I'm very sorry they didn't go through, but i do think it heightens the threat to choice and diversity in schools that a Labour government would pose."

He seized on the college's provision of 32 assisted places as indicating another key difference between the two main Labour Party would strangle the assisted places, were they in government."

Later the Prime Minister gave lessons on leadership to the pupils. Answering their questions, he said: "Leadership is not about striking udes. It's about examining a problem and saying to urself, 'How do I solve it?

And how do I persuade people

my solution is right?" Often it means doing things people will dislike. That has been the fate of prime ministers and service leaders since recorded time. If you are concerned about tomorrow's headlines and the way it looks, you may give the impression you are leading, but you won't be. You are just following fashion. Try to bring people

with you if you can, but if you

can't, go ahead and do it



Mr Ashdown trying his hand at diablo yesterday at a school in southwest London

Ashdown revs up for early advantage

BY POLLY NEWTON

PADDY Ashdown will hit the election trail in his "battle bus" on Monday, launching the Liberal Democrats' campaign in earnest despite a plea earlier this week to other party leaders to "calm down" until

nearer polling day. The Liberal Democrat leader plans to be on the road every day next week except Good Friday. By beginning before Easter instead of waiting until after the break, Mr Ashdown hopes to win some

early publicity for his party. He will also be out and about in the West Country at the end of this week, campaigning in his own Yeovil constituency on Friday and in Taunton on Saturday

On Tuesday, Mr Ashdown said that the public would be "bored to death" and "turned off in droves" by a six-week campaign. He said the Liberal Democrats would enter the fray "in good time".

The party's strategy concentrating time and re-sources almost exclusively on the seats it believes are winnable will take Mr Ashdown to either end of the country during the election campaign.

But despite being the oldest ers, Mr Ashdown, at 56, has a reputation as the most energetic. Aides say his Forces background left him with a lot of stamina and an ability to

Fiasco casts doubt over future of self-regulation

The shambles over the "cash-for-questions" report is about much more than the future of a few Tory MPs. It is really over whether the House of Commons is any longer fit or capable of regulating its own

Ever since the battles with the Crown during the 17th century, the Commons has been lealous of its privileges. These have never been absofute. In the first half of the 19th century, the House spent much time on petitions over disputed elections. These were decided by the House itself, in much the same interminable and fractious way that privilege cases have recently been. But after 1868 these were transferred to election courts under High Court judges. The number of petitions anyway fell because of new laws against corrupt election practices and with the introduction of the secret ballot.

The same issues are now involved in the debate over self-regulation and the declaration of interests. The old system relied on the convention that "good chaps know how to behave". But this broke down during the 1970s and 1980s in response to the growth of commerical lobbying and the changing character of MPs. Members were no longer sure what was acceptable, and that allowed a few, probably a very few, to abuse the rules on declaration of

interest which developed in the mid-1970s in response to the Poulson scandal. Not only was there uncertainty over the rules (and in some cases deliberate abuse of them), but the machinery for considering complaints proved to be cumbersome, unfair and often

The Nolan inquiry of two years ago was a classic exercise in conservative reformism, an attempt to repair and revive what it acknowledged was a defective system. The report argued that "because parliamentary privilege is important for reasons entirely unconnected with the standards of conduct of individual Members of Parliament, we believe that it would be highly desirable for self-regulation to

The committee argued that it was therefore essential that the resolutions of the House should be regarded as binding by all Members, and should be firmly, promptly and fairly enforced". The report proposed a new code of conduct, restrictions on the outside activities of MPs and a streamlined disciplinary procedure with a new, smaller Standards and Privileges Committee replacing two larger committees. This has involved the appointment of the Parliamentary Commis-

sible to the House but with an independent status. The principle of self-regulation has been preserved since the new committee still recommends how complaints should be handled with final decisions being taken, as before, on the floor of the House.

chant and Royal Navies. He

seemed intrigued by a device

intended to instil a sense of

unity and leadership. Eight pupils attempted to walk with

their feet strapped to the same

pair of ski-style planks, using

a process of cooperation and

communication. The Prime

Minister did not ask for a set

Less successful in public

relations terms was the

school's decision to stage a

mock rescue of a pupil left

revived memories of a tragedy

four years ago, when a lo-year-old pupil at the school

to foster Tory team spirit.

The new system has been under way for less than 18 months. Several minor complaints have been dealt with smoothly and Sir Gordon Downey, the Commissioner. practice, developed considerable authority of his own. But the "cash-for-questions" affair and all its many ramifications have put strains on the time and resources of both Sir Gordon and the committee. This can partly be regarded as a one-off because of the bizarre nature of the whole Al-Fayed/Rowland affair. But the delays and disputes also raise doubts over whether self-regulation is any

iger credible and workable. After the election, the Nolan committee will review how its proposals are working. At the least it should consider strengthening Sir Gordon's operation and introducing an independent element onto the Standards and Privileges Committee. But this may not be enough. The rules may have to be put on a statuory basis adjudicated by an outside court, like elections.

PETER RIDDELL

Every child 'needs an e-mail address'

By ADAM FRESCO

EVERY child over the age of nine should have his own email address, according to a Labour Party panel.

The report by group of businessmen and experts, under the leadership of Dennis Stevenson, chairman-elect of the Pearson Group, says much needs to be done if schools are to take full advantage of future possibilities; the state of information technology in schools is "primitive

and not improving".

Labour has pledged to use
Millennium Fund cash to help to improve teacher training in information technology, but the Stevenson report says that information technology in schools is so important that "the level of funding allocated must be whatever it takes to get it right".

The priority is not re-equipping schools with hardware so much as improving teacher training and fostering the development of educational software. "A sudden explosion of hardware at the moment would be counter-productive in view of the current state of skills and confidence among many teachers and the lack of relevant software," the report





CAR INSURANCE

Yeltsin daughter acts as power broker

FROM ROBIN LODGE IN MOSCOV

TYANA DYACHENKO, the younr daughter of President Yeltsin and 2 most powerful voice behind the emlin throne, played a key role in curing the appointment of Boris emtsov, the popular reformist goverar of Nizhny Novgorod, to a top sition in the new Russian Govern-

ent, it was reported yesterday.

The influential Komsomolskava avda said that Ms Dyachenko, who terged as her father's closest aide tring last year's presidential election mpaign, travelled to Nizhny Novgod, an industrial centre on the River ilga, and spent five hours with Mr emtsov in an effort to persuade him accept the job of First Deputy Prime inister with special responsibility for cial reform, the regions and antionopoly legislation.

In an interview with the newspaper, in an interview with the newspaper, in Nemtsov confirmed that he had ild talks with a close relative of the resident, although he declined no time Ms Dyachenko and insisted that it had only agreed to accept the post ter speaking to Mr Yeltsin personal-

ter speaking to Mr Yeltsin personal-Many commentators have scribed Mr Nemtsov's new job as a sison chalice, noting that he will bear rect responsibility for the very probms that the Government has hitherto emonstrably failed to cope with, in particular the task of breaking the deadlock over non-payment of pensions and wages — a debt that amounts to more than £6 billion.

He will also have to initiate a major shake-up in the state bureaucracy, in order to cleanse it of entrenched corruption and gross inefficiency, as well as take on some of the most powerful figures in the country to break down the state monopolies.

Mr Nemtsov conceded that in accepting the job he may have committed political suicide. "I was fully aware of the consequences of my decision," he told the newspaper. "It is a chance to



Dyachenko: spent five hours persuading Boris Nemtsov

transform the situation in the country, albeit at the cost of my political future."

He said he had secured a pledge from Mr Yeltsin to be given two clear years to succeed. "That is very important. To work without the trust of the President, particularly in those areas where there are mountains of intrigue, in the criminal world, in the corrupt bureaucracy, without having the support of the President, now that would be real suicide."

Mr Nemtsov is seen as a natural ally of his fellow First Deputy Prime Minister, Anatoli Chubais, a radical market reformer whose past privatisation policies have made him a bête noir of Communist and nationalist hard-liners. Unlike Mr Chubais, however, Mr Nemtsov enjoys huge personal popularity on the record of his achievements in Nizhny Novgorod, seen as a bastion of regional power and fertile ground for investment.

In harness with Mr Chubais, Mr Nemtsov would appear to represent a considerable threat to the political hold of Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Prime Minister, a solid, plodding figure who has taken a far more cautious attitude to the future of market reform and, despite his firm loyalty to Mr Yeltsin, is thought to share common cause with some opposition leaders.



One of a group of Russian Communists, some with posters of Stalin, outside the American Embassy in Moscow during a protest against Nato expansion

Kremlin set to exploit summit stage

PROM RICHARD BEESTON IN HELSINKI

A BUOYANT and revitalised President Yeltsin sets off today on his first foreign trip in nearly a year, determined to re-establish Russia's presence on the world stage.

on the world stage.

Despite pressing issues over Nato's expansion into Eastern Europe and nagging economic and social problems at home, the Helsinki summit, which officially begins this evening, will be as much about image as substance.

For the Russian leader, who has been absent largely because of illness for most of the past eight months since his re-election, the Finnish capital will provide the perfect platform to serve notice that he is very much back in

President Yeltsin's illness triggered a fierce succession battle among potential leaders and led to power struggles within his Government. The impression of a rudderless Russia sparked an open debate abroad about the post-Yeltsin era and who the West should back in the event of a leadership contest.

Now a fitter and alert Mr Yeltsin has regained the initiative, injecting fresh reformist talent into his Cabinet and serving notice to the West that Russia will not allow itself to be pushed around.

Leading article, page 25

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Bill and Boris help Finns to rediscover

a nice little earner
FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN HELSINKI

NO WONDER they keep coming back. Helsinki is the perfect summit venue — prosperous, discreet, efficient, well practised in the art of East-West diplomacy and keeping the Russians happy. It almost seems like the good old days, when the Firns made a fortune as Moscow's window on the world and neutrality was a nice little earner.

a nice little earner.

Light snow was falling yesterday, and with temperatures well below zero there was a nostalgic touch of the old Cold War. Russo-American summits have become routine, and Mr Clinton has now had II meetings with Mr Yeltsin. But the Bill and Boris show was getting a little too informal for the connoisseurs: shirtsleeve peacemaking. In Sharm el-Sheikh and reminiscences amid the autumn

splendour of Roosevelt's onetime home in Hyde Park.

This time, at least, things are as they used to be. The agenda is arms control, nuclear weapons and the evils of Nato. Both sides are talking about a "difficult" meeting, threatening each other with communique clauses and insisting they will defend their

nations' interests.

The health issue is also back one leader, vigorous,

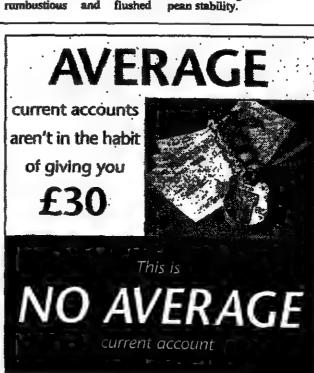
with the political daring of having just reshuffled his team is meeting another who has difficulty moving and appears as paralysed abroad as he is at home. Still, Finnish doctors are renowned for their skill and discretion, and several will be standing by in case Mr Clinton's tendon takes a turn for the worse.

Summitry has become a speciality for the Finns, Journalists' kits have been updated, limousine routes cleared, hotels commandeered and trams are again flying the little flags that last fluttered when Presidents Bush and Gorbachev arrived for a hastily arranged meeting in 1990 on the Gulf crists.

ing in 1990 on the Gulf crisis.

The high point for Finnish diplomacy was more than 20 years ago when this country played host to 35 European nations who spent weeks negotiating the Heisinki accords. In 1975 heads of state from all the signatories arrived for one of the biggest summits yet — which was to make Heisinki part of the international diplomatic vocabulary.

They came back again, a different cast and a larger group, 20 years later to reaffirm these basic documents on human rights and Euro-



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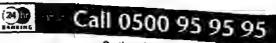
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How to vote if you are away from home, ill or disabled.

The General Election has been called for 1 May 1997. Some people will be away from home or anable to attend their polling stations for other reasons. If this applies to you — or if you've moved home since 10 October 1996—apply for a postal or proxy vote today.

Many areas in England will also have local government elections on 1 May. Even if you already have a postal or proxy vote for these elections, this will not automatically give you such a vote at the general election. Apply now if in doubt. (You can at the same time use this form to apply for a postal or proxy vote at the local government elections; if you need one, tick the box in the form.)

WHEN TO AFPLY

Fill in the form and send it by first class post (or take it by hand) to the Electoral Registration Officer for the area where you are registered as an elector.

He or she is normally based at the Council Offices. The address is in the phone book. The form must reach the Electoral Registration Officer no later than 5pm on 16 april 1997.

now to apply vienc the form

Part 1. Fill in part 1. Remember to give the reason why you can't vote in person. Tick the box for local government elections if you need to.

Part 2. Fill in either part 2a or part 2b. If you will be in the UK during the election period you can choose to vote by post or to appoint a 'proxy' (someone who will vote for you at your polling station). Postal ballot papers are normally sent out about a week before polling day, so make sure you take this into consideration when you decide how to vote.

If you wish to vote by post, fill in part 2a. You may not vote by post from outside the UK.

If you wish to appoint a proxy, fill in part 2b. Your proxy must be qualified to vote in the General Election. A proxy may not vote at the same election for more than two people unless they are close relatives – husband, wife, parent, grandparent, brother, sister, child or grandchild.

If you live in Northern Ireland you cannot use this form. You should contact your local Electoral Office.

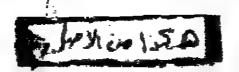
If you need extra forms ask your Electoral Registration Officer.

Office use only Register of Electors Poll District Application to vote by post or proxy at the General Election Elect. No. One person per form please Tick here if you also need a postal Read the notes on the left before completing this form in BLOCK LETTERS or proxy vote at local government About yourself elections on 1 May Forenames Present address Postcode Telephone number(s) (if any) This might not be your present address if you have moved house since 10 October 1996. Address on register Important-see notes on the left. Give detailed reasons why you need an absent vote: Reason I cannot reasonably be expected to vote in person at my polling station at the election because for this application Signature PART 2 Post or proxy voting? Read the notes on the left before you fill in either the By Post or the By Proxy section. If you choose 2a By post to vote by post give here the UK address to which the ballot paper is to be sent. Postcode If you choose to vote by proxy give the name and address of your proxy below. You must first make 25 By proxy certain that the person is willing, and is allowed, to vote on your behalf - please read the notes on the left. Proxy's full name Proxy's address Proxy's relationship to you (if any) Postcode Now sign the statement below. I have consulted the person named above as proxy and he/she is willing and is allowed to vote on my behalf. A fine of up to £5,000 can be incurred by anyone who on this application makes a statement he or she Warning

Don't lose your right to vote.

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This form must reach the Electoral Registration Officer for the area where you are registered by

5pm on 16 April 1997. There is a separate form for people who need a postal or proxy vote because of

unforseen health reasons and have missed the normal closing date. Contact your Electoral Registration

Officer as soon as possible if this applies to you.

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RAGE

Crack troops cross Adriatic in effort to stop influx as 'undesirables' are sent back to Tirana

Italy declares state of emergency over Albanian refugees

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN BARI

THE Italian Government yesterday declared a state of emergency throughout the country until June 30 to cope with the influx of more than 10,000 refugees from Albania

Italian radio reported that troops and armour from the crack San Marco Brigade the Italian equivalent of the SAS — were heading for the Albanian port of Durres in the warship San Giusto to secure a beachhead with the apparent aim of prevening further departures of refugees. Officials said the fleeing Albanians were being offered passages across the Adriatic by unscrupulous Albanian mafiosi.

Most of the refugees who have flooded in on leaky and overcrowded boats across the 40 miles of the Adriatic in the past week have come to southern Italy, but some are being 30ris help . transferred to central and northern Italian towns as makeshift refugee centres in the south fill up.

The authorities have grown increasingly alarmed over the number of "hardened criminais" whom they say have taken advantage of the exodus to enter Italy in the past few days. Yesterday's decree, isnet, provides for the repatriation to Albania of "unwelcome guests" who "pose a threat to public order

They are defined as those with a criminal record in Albania and any refugees who have "caused trouble" since their arrival in Italy. Chinook helicopters of the Italian Navy yesterday ferried 300 of these undesirables" back to Alba-

6 I am keen on computers, but there is nothing

for me in Albania. I want to study here ?

nia. Giorgio Napolitano, the Interior Minister, said Italy had planned for an influx of 3,500 immigrants, but "the wave and rhythm of arrivals from Albania have exceeded every possible forecast".

Lamberto Dini, the Foreign Minister, said after talks with the EU mission to Albania sued after a two-hour crisis and the Albanian Foreign meeting of the centre-left Cabi- Minister. Arjan Starova, that the exodus posed "a threat to

the whole of Europe".

But members of the right-wing Opposition said the Government had done "too little, too late" and Italy was in danger of being overrun.

The decree provides for emergency funding to help local authorities to set up temporary shelters. But officials made clear that the refugees would be given sanctuary only for up to two months, after which they would be expected to return home.

Elections are due in Albania in June, and Italy is to provide food aid and other help to enable the Albanian authorities to re-establish order. Italy's hope that most of the

immigrants will go home may be a forlorn one, judging by the reaction of the refugees at one of the main camps yesterday. At Bari military airfield, where a temporary town of army tents and mobile homes had sprung up since the influx began a week ago, Astrit, a 28-year-old butcher's assistant from Tirana, said: "I have a brother in Bologna and another in Pisa. I intend to join them, with my wife and child-ren." He and his family had spent 20 hours on a broken-down fishing boat before



Two Albanian children shelter in a blanket provided by the Italian Red Cross in Brindisi yesterday after being rescued by the coastguard

being rescued by Italian coast-guards. Did he intend to go back? "Albania has no future,"

be said flatty.
We were joined by a crowd of Albanian men, women and children, dressed in the blue overalls the Italian civil defence authorities have provided. None admitted to having paid Albanian mafiosi for the

crossing; all claimed to have lost everything in the col-lapsed pyramid schemes that sparked the unrest.

What if President Berisha was defeated in the elections in June, and replaced by an opposition leader such as Fatos Nano? "They are all the "Hoxha (the late Communist

dictator), Berisha, Nano - it makes no difference." Klodi, a 19-year-old econom-

ics student from Vlore and the son of an Albanian naval officer, told me he was already homesick. But, like the others, he wanted to stay. Dressed smarter than the rest in a leather jacket, he was the kind of young Aibanian - bright, articulate, fluent in English and Italian - whom Mr Berisha must have hoped would form the nucleus of a new and modern Albanian elite. "I am keen on computers," he said. "But there is nothing for me in Albania. I want to study here."

Bari residents still have

bigger exodus in 1991, when tens of thousands of Albanians fled after the collapse of communism. At a refugee centre in the rundown port area, in the shadow of Bari's fortress, charity workers said the situation was under controi compared with the influx

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'Terrorists' forced to fly home

BY TOM WALKER about 300 reluctant Albani-

ALBANIANS unceremoniously dumped back at Tirana airport yesterday said that they had been forced to sign documents they could not understand by the Italian

When they were later handed Albanian translations, they learnt that they had been branded "terrorists" and a "threat to public order": by then, however, they were being herded on to Chinook twin-rotor transport helicopters and flown back across the Adriatic_

Yesterday three helicopter loads arrived in the morning and another four in the after-

ans. "They said we are terrorist people. I was never a terrorist in my life," said Shpetim Arifaj, 31, who claimed to have an MA in computer sciences from Dub-lin University. "We put our signatures on pleces of paper not knowing what they were. Later they gave us papers in Albanian saying we were terrorists. None of us was a

terrorist." After landing at the recently secured airport, the deportees were led at a jog across the ground by police and soldiers - a show of strength for the international cameras. Alba-

rivals its Balkan counterpart in Serbia for misinformation, repeated the warnings not to take the perilous boat trip to Italy, and did its best to convey the impression of peace breaking out all over the country. Children in Kruje, 20 miles

north of Tirana, were shown dancing round a flowerbedecked Kalashnikov, while in the southeast students in Librazhd were shown on a "peace march" against war the new Minister of Finance, meanwhile appealed to Albanian businessmen to pay their

Violence halts work of Mother Teresa's nuns

THE charitable work of the world's most famous Albanian, Mother Teresa, has come to a hait in her homeland as a humanitarian catastrophe

Nuns in Scutari, the north Albanian base for the Missionaries of Charity, have described their ordeal last week as rebels took over the town and a fire threatened to engulf their compound.

The sisters were saved by the prompt action of local priests and armed guards sent by the Roman Catholic Church However, with Scutari now cut off from its vital supply routes to Montenegro, food prices have trebled and many staples are unavailable. We have always visited the poorest of the poor, but now we cannot even give them their ration," Sister Maria-Goretti, the convent's Mother Superior, said in the shadow of the destroyed buildings. This is the devil's work. We are only still here because of

the Lord's intervention." The 14 sisters at the mission look after 25 handicapped children, who have been terrified by the violence that grips Scutari each night. When the rebellion began last Wednesday night, the bank behind the sisters' compound was looted and set alight, and soon two sides of the small courtyard

were ablaze. They were stealing, burning and shooting in the air,"
Sister Maria-Goretti said. We had to throw the children out into the street as the fire



Tom Walker in Scutari reports on the thuggery that is preventing 14 sisters from feeding 150 hungry families

drew in. We thought we were the next building to go." Local Jesuits sheltered the children for the night and the

brothers of Mother Teresa's order, from hearby Bushat, have helped the sisters to bring the mission's life back to normal. However, the food the sisters deliver to 150 families oil, sugar, pasta, flour and other staples - has run out, We only have enough for the children now." Sister Maria-Goretti said. "We have to think ahead and there could be a great hunger here."

Sebastian, the order's superior in Bushat, said a "mir-acle" had saved the sisters. There was absolute chaos here. They destroyed far more than in the South."

Among the seven brothers in Bushat is Brother Simon.



39, from East Peckham in Kent, formerly a captain in The Royal Green Jackets. "I remember the nuncio (Varican ambassador) telling us that the end of communism is like cutting the head off a snake." he said. "The tail still wags and what we have seen is the final breakdown of previous forms of control here."

Brother Simon, whose Cregistration Ford Transit van is the sisters' only means of escape from Scutari, said that prayer had helped to prevent the total collapse of Albania last week. "We could have been plunged into a maelstrom of violence."

Yesterday the brothers cele-brated the feast of St Joseph with an ordination at Scutari's Catholic cathedral, the largest in the Balkans but used as a olleyball court under Enver Hoxha, the former dictator.

Outside, even though uniformed police were back on the streets. Scutari encapsulated the poverty and unease of northern Albanian towns. A dead horse blocked the road to the cathedral and leeks were the only vegetables available. Uncollected rubbish rotted on the pavements. Children sold clips of Kalashnikov ammuni-tion for \$5 (E3) apiece.

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Gore faces unexpected rivals in White House race*

UNTIL this month, it was hard to imagine that Al Gore, the American Vice-President, would face serious rivals from within his party in his race for the White House in 2000.

However, the campaign fundraising scandals have tarnished his image and encouraged opponents to think the unthinkable: President Clinton's designated successor is vulnerable. The race to become the Democratic candidate for President is now on. At least four contenders are

preparing to fight for the nomination: Richard Gephardt, the House Majority Leader. Senator John Kerry

Cash scandals have sullied the image of the Vice-President and cast doubt on his presidential nomination in 2000, reports Bronwen Maddox from Washington

from Massachusetts. Senator Bob Kerrey from Nebraska and Bill Bradley, a former New Jersey senator. Senator Paul Wellstone from Minnesota is also reported to be

mulling over his chances. The contest will open up the barely-concealed rift in the Democratic Party. New Democrats, headed by Mr Clinton

and Mr Gore, march to the President's refrain that the era of big government is over. Old Democrats still pledge allegiance to extensive government welfare and health programmes. They support the minimum wage and oppose measures to liberalise trade, such as the Nafta pact

The death of the division was reflected in last year's vote on welfare reform legislation. Democrats in the House of Representatives voted by 98 in favour and 98 against; just weeks later, Senate Democrats split 23-23 on the same

Two factors will determine which side of the party dominates the next race for the White House: the state of the economy in 2000, and the legacy of the campaign finance dispute. If the economy is weak, the old Democrats, proclaiming "we told you so", may be able to rebuild their political clout. If economic

growth is still strong, and Mr Clinton has walked through the fire of investigations with as little injury as he appears to have done in the Whitewater case, then Mr Gore's candidacy looks safe. If the economy is healthy, but the Clinton-Gore team is tarred with the fundraising scandal, then the new Democrats will find their way clear to challenge the Vice-

At this point, Mr Gore's most prominent rival is Mr Gephardt. A moderate at the start of his 25-year career, he is now associated with the old Democrat wing of the party. He called welfare reform "a dangerous step in the wrong direction" and attacked the North American Free Trade Agreement; he opposes Mr Clinton's plan to expand the agreement to other countries in Latin America.

However, Mr Gephardt's problem is that he is perceived as a nearly-man, cautious not charismatic. He ran for President in 1988 but his campaign fizzled out after the New Hampshire primary. Two years ago, when Republicans won control of the House, Newt Gingrich's vigour as Speaker upstaged Mr Gephardrs performance. Unless Democrats regain control of

Gephardt may not have the chance to reverse that image. In the past few weeks, Mr

Wellstone has also emerged as a possible old Democrat challenger. However, Mr Gore's aides fear that more dangerous rivals could emerge from the new Democrat wing of the

John Kerry, a Vietnam vereran, has shaken off some of his reputation for alcomess and arrogance, but his marriage to Teresa Heinz, the heiress to the pickle and ketchup empire, has proved an uncertain political blessing. Her estimated fortune of

the House next year. Mr almost \$500 million (£500 million) provoked sharp comments from fellow Democrats.

The appeal of Bob Kerrey of Nebraska, another Vietnam veteran, is hard to assess as he has made his independence from the Democratic Party his main pitch, even though he is chairman of the Democratic campaign commince in the

Senate. Bill Bradley, the former New Jersey senator and basketball star, is also reckoned to have charisma. He has strong-ly criticised liberal elements in the Democratic Party but is believed to have limited

Gingrich's former allies accuse him of betrayal

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE fortunes of Newt Gingplummeted still further yesterday after conservative politicians accused their House Speaker of betraying the crown jewel of his Republican

His proposal to shelve demands for tax relief as a federal budget by 2002 left Mr Gingrich in an increasingly fragile state within his party. And it divided Republican budget leaders as they met at the White House before President Clinton's departure for Helsinki yesterday.

Mr Gingrich has become a symbol for Republican inaction since President Clinton's re-election and a constant reminder of the dervish-like activity that marked his accession to the Speaker's chair in

His latest budget proposal, immediately hailed by Mr Clinton as an opportunity for bipartisan agreement, was viewed by conservatives on Capitol Hill as another desperate attempt by Mr Ging-rich to improve his popularity among the electorate.

It places him in direct confrontation with Dick Armey, the House majority leader, who is seen as a possible successor, and Trent Lott, the Senate majority leader, both of whom are opposed to any capitulation over tax

"It is a signal that the

Speaker is willing to jettison

reconciliation Bill that will be passed and signed by the President, said David Mo-Intosh, an Indiana Republican, in a letter signed by 32 House colleagues. "Any plan that does not include meaningful tax relief must be

soundly rejected." Conservatives are most angered by what they describe as "betrayal" by Mr Gingrich despite their backing for him when he admitted violating House ethics rules. He was formally reprimanded in January and fined \$300,000 (£189.000), but was not asked

The once revolutionary firebrand is so much a shadow of his former self that he stalks



Gingrich: his fortunes are continuing to fall

the corridors of Capitol Hill almost unnoticed and often ignored. Former allies had always been wary of Mr Gingrich's wavering ideology and his ability to melt in the presence of Mr Clinton, but are said to be no longer prepared to forgive the man who engineered Republican control of the House of Representatives for the first time in 40 years. Many believe that in his attempt at compromise the Speaker is no longer acting

like a conservative.

"He holds these regular meetings to define priorities and talks about the Republicans winning elections in 2000 and beyond," David Brooks, of the conservative Weekly Standard, said. "He has plans for the next 20 years, but not the next two weeks. It just looks like he is flailing around in search of popularity rather than personally leading the conservative movement.

Instead of tackling important issues. Mr Gingrich is seen to have concentrated on 'feelgood" policies such as releasing money for family planning programmes overseas, which other Republicans view as a means of promoting

To make matters worse, he has proposed a trip to China early next month, despite concerns over human rights and the deepening fundraising controversy with its Asian connections, that has engulfed the White House and is trickling towards Capitol Hill.



President Clinton, resting his injured leg, briefs the press in the White House in preparation for his meeting this week with Russia's President Yeltsin in Helsinki

WORLD IN BRIEF

'Witch' beaten to death in Russia

Moscow: A mother of six was beaten to death with a hammer in a village in Belgorod province in south Russia for suspected witchcraft, the daily newspaper Komsomolskaya

Pravda reported yesterday (Robin Lodge writes). The woman, a professional fortune-teller, was apparently attacked by two men angered by her predictions, police said. Her name has not been released. The attackers also assaulted her three elder children, and a daughter aged 14 is in

intensive care. Two suspects are being questioned by police.
Charges of witchcraft have grown in the former Soviet
Union, where many disaffected people have been turning to the supernatural to find comfort.

Israeli killed in Lebanon

Marjayoun: One Israeli soldier was killed and three others wounded when Muslim guerrillas attacked a patrol in southern Lebanon, sources with the South Lebanon Army said. The guerrillas fired rockets, rocket-propelled grenades and machineguns at the Israelis in Arnoun on the edge of Israel's south Lebanon occupation zone. Two of the wounded soldiers were seriously hurt. Six Israeli soldiers have been killed in Lebanon this year, and 26 wounded. (Reuter)

New choice for CIA chief

Washington: President Clinton has decided to nominate George Tenet, right, the current acting head of the CIA, to serve as the spy agency's Director, senior Administration officials said. "The President believes he [Tenet] is well qualified for the post." said one senior White House official. "He is more than satisfied." On Monday, Anthony Lake withdrew his nomination after harsh Senate committee confirmation hearings. (Reuter)



Singapore stifles stench

Singapore: The number of Singaporeans convicted for urinating in lifts fell last year to 14 from 40, the Straits Times said. The old sensors sealed lift doors when a puddle was detected, sometimes leading to false alarms. A new kit will improve detection since it will react only to urine. (Reuter)

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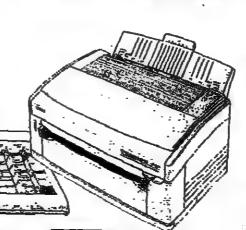
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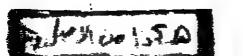
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MUST

THERE'S NEVE



Supreme Court rejects petitions to halt work on Jewish homes in east Jerusalem

Egypt and Syria warn Israel of war risk

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

EGYPT and Syria warned Israel yesterday that it was pushing the Middle East into a new confrontation as the Supreme Court rejected two petitions to halt bulldozers constructing a settlement for 32,000 Jews in annexed east

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In his bluntest attack yet on Binyamin Netanyahu, Israel's Prime Minister, President Mubarak of Egypt said: "If this settlement is built, this will not be the end of the whole thing. It will be the beginning of a new era of violence we would like to avoid."

The leader of Egypt, the first Arab state to make peace with Israel, added angrily: The use of force and arrogance, the arrogance of power, will never lead to a solution at all. The issue of Jerusalem will never be solved by the use of buildozers. This only increases problems and harred."

With Palestinian street protests planned for tomorrow. the traditional day of Muslim prayers, and rising fears of a spark that could ignite a new Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Farouk al-Shara, Syria's Foreign Minister, issued a warning that Har Homa would lead to

bloodshed on a wider scale. The Damaseus press quoted him as claiming that the building of 6,500 homes - the first to be occupied in 1999 would not succeed.

But he [Netanyahu] might succeed in escalating tension in the region and in dragging Arabs into confrontation that he would be responsible for. The world realises that Netanyahu does not want peace but is putting the region on the verge of new wars."

Amid the mounting Arab rhetoric, including calls in the Jordanian media for the recall of Jordan's Ambassador in Tel Aviv, the official Syrian daily Tishreen compared Mr Netanyahu's policies with those of Hitler, "who invaded Europe, destroyed human beings, ex-pelled people and seized their properties".

in combative mood, Mr Netanyahu, 47, flatly rejected Arab and international criticism of Tuesday's go-ahead for the building on land conquered from Jordan in 1967 and known to Arabs as Jabal Abu Ghneim. The Prime Minister said that the disputed pine-studded hillside was part of the capital of the Jewish



Israeli soldiers and Palestinian demonstrators scuffle as bulldozers move in to clear the way for construction of the Har Homa settlement

state. "I cannot imagine any peace process under which we cannot build in our capital," he told Israel radio, "I do not agree to any peace that prevents us from building in

Jerusalem." His close political ally. Ehud Olmert, the Likud Mayor of Jerusalem and a driving force behind Har Homa, dismissed President Mubarak's warning, telling an Israeli radio reporter: "No one is in a position to dictate to Israel what we do in Jerusalem."

Describing the Israeli stance, the Tel Aviv paper Maariv said that the Likud Government had "gambled for the whole pot" in going ahead with Har Homa, "risking a worsening of the conflict with the Palestinians,

demonstrations, terror attacks, bloodshed ... Israel is wearing a flak jacket and hoping for the best".

lts main rival. Yediot Aharonot, warned its readers: The Har Homa affair could be the final faultline in relations between the Netanyahu Government and the Arafat Government. And the buildozers will be followed by tanks."

After calling a crisis meeting with European consul-generals based in mainly Arab cast Jerusalem, Faisal Husseini, the leading PLO official in Jerusalem, told reporters: "Mr Netanyahu's policy has killed the peace process.

The Israeli Prime Minister took the unusual step yesterday of publicly rejecting an American denial of his charge

that Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian Authority leader, had given Islamic militants the green light to resume suicide attacks against Jewish targets. "We have solid information from the Israeli intelligence. We see contacts of the PLO with Hamas and other organisations ... If there is terrorism, we will see the Palestinian Authority as responsible.

Zaire in limbo as **Premier** is ousted

FROM SAM KILES IN KINSHASA

ZAIRE drifted leaderless yesterday after its Prime Minister was ousted at the army's insistence and rebels, who control a fifth of the country, vowed to continue their advance.

The removal of Leon Kengo wa Dondo defied the wishes of President Mobutu and signalled an end to the ailing dictator's influence on the vast Central African nation. Members of parliament who voted to depose Mr Kengo on Tues-day said many of them had been offered financial incentives to ensure that the Prime Minister lost a vote of no confidence.

"The army had grown fed up with the political paralysis and wanted to get rid of the Government. It would have been too dangerous if they had moved openly against the Prime Minister and his Government ... so the army pushed parliament into voting against him," an MP said.

Mr Kengo arrived in Nairobi yesterday for talks on the Zaire crisis, claiming that he still had the support of the "political class". However, Zaire's state radio broadcast that he had been dismissed for "incompetence in the face of the civil war", blaming him for the army's rout by the anti-Mobutu rebels.

General Mahele Bokungo, the Chief of Staff who was jeered by soldiers when he exhorted them to fight the Democratic Alliance of Forces for the Liberation of Congo-Zaire before Kisangani fell last weekend, insisted yesterday that he had no part in overthrowing Mr Kengo. The army is constitutionally politics," he insisted.

By late yesterday the country was still without a Prime Minister, General Mahele, meanwhile, appealed to "the Government" to give him the means to fight the rebels, led by Laurent Kabila.

His appeal came as a rebel spokesman said they would continue advancing towards Mbuji-Mayi, the capital of the diamond-rich East Kasai province. They hoped to reach the area before soldiers who had fled there started to de-

Spanish scholar finds links between Basque and Etruscan tongues

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FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

EUSKERA, the tongue-twisting language of the Basques, could prove the key that unlocks the ancient secrets of Etruscan, a mysterious language that has defied all attempts to decipher it for centuries. According to Jorge Alonso, a Spanish historian of language, Euskera and Etruscan are closely related. In a book to be published here shortly, Desciframiento de la lengua etrusca (Deciphering Etrustheir vocabularies and syntax, concluding that by "using Euskera as a tool", linguists should be able to translate Etruscan texts and tablets that have lain unread for millennia. Señor Alonso's thesis should also

cast new light on the origins of the Etruscans - once the inhabitants of what is now Tuscany. If their language is related to Euskera, it is likely that their origins lay in northern Africa. As Señor Alonso has written, Euskera is derived from ancient Iberian, the language spoken on the Iberian peninsula

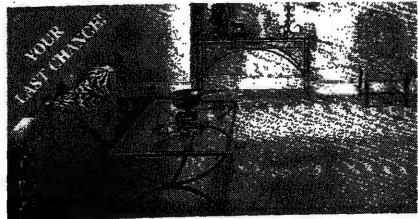
Archaeologists are certain that the Iberians came from North Africa, migrating to Spain to escape climatic changes. The question raised is: did the Etruscans, 100, leave North Africa for a new home on the Italian peninsula? If their language is related to Euskera, it is not an unlikely theory.

Señor Aionso's studies were conducted at the Etruscan necropolises near Rome and Perugia, There, the startling similarity between certain Etruscan funerary inscriptions and Euskera words convinced him of a tant proof was the Etruscan word dule, found in graveyards, which is virtually identical to the Euskera word dulle, or scythe, commonly used as a synonym for "death". Another phrase in Euskera, Baltzur atean-nas, meaning "I am at the gate of the river of darkness". resembles closely an inscription at an Etruscan necropolis near Perugia: Velth-ur-a-tin-nas.

If Euskera were to assist in cracking the language of the Etruscans, whose civilisation was at its height in the last quarter of the 6th

helped to resolve one of mankind's oldest linguistic riddles. Etruscan is a language with, until now, no known structural or historical relationship to any other. It is known to us from inscriptions, mainly epitaphs and dedications, written in an alphabet probably derived from Early Greek. It was written in the boustrophedon style. "turning like an ox ploughing", with the direc-tion of writing alternating with each line first right-to-left then leftto-right.

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Teargas fired as Papua mob riots over mercenaries

By Noel Pascoe in port moresby. Roger Maynard in sydney and Our Foreign Staff

PAPUA New Guinea's political crisis turned violent yesterday as police fired teargas at anti-government rioters and the army continued to defy orders to free 40 foreign mercenaries it is detaining.

More than 2,000 civilians rallied outside the army barracks to denounce the Government's plan to pay the mercenaries millions of pounds to crush a long-running rebellion on the island of Bougainville. They refused to disperse until their petition for the resignation of Sir Julius Chan. the Prime Minister, within 24 hours and the expulsion of the mercenaries was accepted. They were eventually per-

suaded not to march on to the Prime Minister's office and to hand the petition to Peter Yama, the Works and Transport Minister. Inside the bar-racks, about 1,000 soldiers staged a demonstration demanding that the mercenaries be sent home and that government corruption be exposed.

As tensions rose, about 1,000 people began looting mainly Asian-owned department stores near the barracks, forcing police to fire teargas. Soldiers also fired several shots in the air to disperse the mab. There were no reports of injuries or arrests.

The violence erupted after Brigadier-General Jerry Singirok, the defence force commander, denounced the Government on Monday. In a radio broadcast he attacked Sir Julius, his deputy and the Defence Minister for hiring mercenaries for a reputed 38

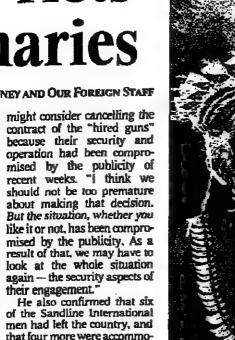
conduct the war in Bougainville while his men went "without food, pay or supplies". General Singirok demanded their resignations and urged the people to force them to quit.

Yesterday Australia tried to mediate in the crisis with John Howard, the Prime Minister, dispatching Philip Flood, head of the Foreign Affairs Department, and two personal emissaries to see Sir Julius. Canberra, which had all along objected to Port Moresby's plan to hire mercenaries, is hoping to persuade Sir Julius to abandon using Sandline International, the Britishbased company, and its South African affiliate, Executive Outcomes, which are supplying the "dogs of war".

Last night Sir Julius apneared to be backing away the mercenary plan he said the Cabinet

Sir Julius still faces the task

reinstated. University students have loined the calls for the three politicians to resign, and are



He also confirmed that six of the Sandline International men had left the country, and that four more were accommodated at the Port Moresby Taurama army barracks "for their own protection".

their engagement."

In London, Sandline International refused to comment on whether its "advisers" had left. It said: "We are in direct contact with the Prime Minister and we are confident that the situation will be resolved amicably in the interests of the country." It added that it had no reason to believe that its personnel "are at any physical

of quelling the turmoil stirred by his controversial plan to hire mercenaries and the subsequent sacking of General Singirok, whose soldiers have reportedly refused to obey instructions from the Prime Minister. They had also threatened to resign en masse if their commander was not

> barrel extracted. It is hard to imagine how the Hulis.



Huli Wig Men prepare to become big spenders

FROM DAVID BENTLEY

AN OIL and gas find in the southern highlands of Papua New Guinea is poised to hurl a tribe of warriors into

Tribal lands belonging to the Huli Wig Men sit on what may well turn out to be the Southern Hemisphere's richest oil and gas reserves. If drilling goes ahead, Huli landholders will receive a 2 per cent royalty for every

who wear red and yellow warpaint and elaborate headgear decorated

with everlasting daisies, will adapt to a sudden injection of riches. Wealth is largely superfluous to the Huli Wig Men's needs. Ritualistic feuds, fought with bow and arrows, occupy daylight hours. There are casualties, but the fighting is all very gentlemanly. Warriors have been known to pause during hostilies to pose for photographs with tourists.

A newly affluent Hull may splurge on a bride, for whom the going price has risen from nine pigs to 40,000 kina (£19,500), or charter a helicopter to visit shops in the main centres. A few may

buy a four-wheel-drive wehicle to ne-gotiate bush tracks. "Huli men are different," Ruth Dicker, who was raised in the nearby township of Tara. says. They grow their own gardens, prepare their own food and live separately from their women. They believe women take power from them." Meanwhile, modern decadence has surfaced. Traditionally. Huli warriors

are supposed to cultivate and maintain the startling "wigs" that signify their manhood. Lately, better-off initiates have employed stand-ins to grow the cone-shaped tufts.

According to Dr Laurence Goldman, a University of Queensland

anthropologist, the Hulis may be more money-wise than oil company, executives think. The tribesmen, he says, are well aware of the potential bonanza beneath their feet. They are far from stupid: that's the biggest mistake anyone can make," says Dr Goldman, who has written four books on the Huli tribe.

For example, he says, if Huli people are hired to do work associated with drilling machines, they will argue that they are neglecting other duties of finding or preparing food and looking after children. They will seek compensation from companies for neglect of their family responsibilities." treatment as cancer spreads

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Sir Julius: considering video players in their huts or perhaps million kina (£18 million) to Kabul enters dark age as windows are painted over to hide 'corrupting' women

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS SOUTH ASIA CORRESPONDENT

THE Taleban Islamic militia, which has banned most forms of fun and entertainment in the two thirds of Afghanistan under its control, has ordered householders to paint over windows in case unveiled women are seen from outside. It said women's faces corrupted men.

Strange orders have made Taleban the laughing stock of much of the Islamic world, aithough those living under its regime find life far from amusing. recent regulation bans taxi drivers from transporting women not covered head-to-toe in a veil. Photographing people has been declared un-Islamic and incurs severe punishment, although passport pictures are exempt.

The window rules were announced on Taleban-controlled Voice of Sharia radio. Second-floor windows must be painted over to a height of 6ft because they "pose a threat to neighbours as far as Islamic hejab [women's dress code] is concerned". Kabul City Council said. The Attorney-General's office in the city said that women's faces were "a source of corruption for men who are not related to them".

Kabul, traditionally a liberal city until the 1970s it was known for its discos, bars and restaurants has been ruled by Taleban since September. Women must be fully veiled in the street and are beaten for non-compliance. They are banned from working or studying at university, consequently inflicting severe hardship on thousands of war widows who once worked on

projects run by international aid

agencies, which find it difficult to operate without them.

The ban on photography makes the work of press photographers all but impossible. Journalists are required to stay in a governmentowned hotel at daily rates that exceed the annual incomes of most Kabul residents and they face severe curbs on their movements. being supposed to use only government-approved taxi drivers and

translators. This ensures their movements can be monitored and that dissidents can never meet

Music is illegal, unless it is religious. Kabul University has reopened, but with only male students and teachers, and there are no schools for girls.

Mufti Muhammad Masoom Afnani, the Aighan-Ambassadon-at Taleban-controlled Embassy in

Islamabad, briefed diplomats and United Nations officials this week on efforts to combat narcotics. This was designed to counter reports that Taleban is involved in the drugs trade — which it certainly is. Production of raw opium, refined

into heroin in mobile laboratories in Afghanistan and tribal areas of Pakistan, has increased under national Taleban rule, judging by satellite photographs of poppy production.



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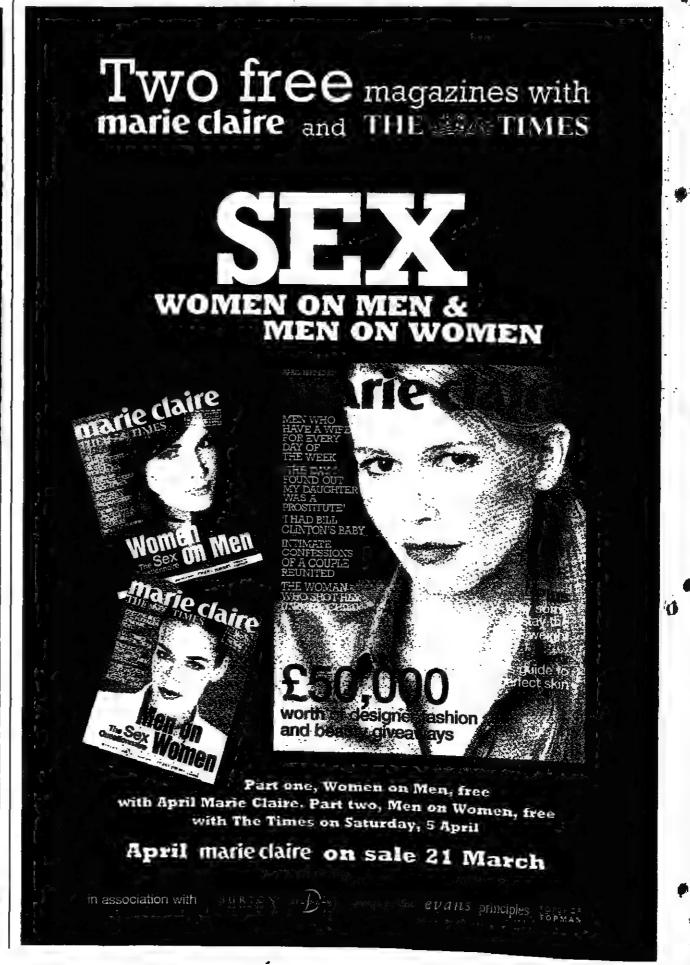
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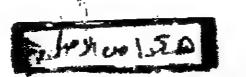
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OVERSEAS NEWS

· Turning a blind eye on colony



Sir Percy, who appears not to have read the polls' verdict on Chris Patten

ment endures more bitierly than Sir Percy Cradock's towards Chris Patten, the Hong

Kong Governor.
Sir Percy has a constant theme—that he has expounded in a book, articles, interviews and public addresses. That theme is simple that through artful diplomacy, Britain, which held almost no cards, concluded agreements with China in 1984 and after which should have carried the colony smoothly through the watershed of 1997 and well into the next century with stability and a fair level of democracy", However, because of "politics". Sir Percy believes that Hong Kong is now "worse off in terms of protection and democracy

than it need have been". The latest expression of his position comes in the maga-zine Prospect. However, Sir Percy, a former ambassador to Beijing and an adviser on China to Margaret Thatcher and John Major, should declare his interests. First, he directed - from London - the negotiations leading up to the 1984 Joint Declaration which he later called "a Rolls-Royce of an agreement" and he understandably feels hard done by that this limousine will not survive the July

HONG KONG COUNTDOWN

mistake" he sees as Mr Patten. "As a rising politician he [Patten] had his name to make

... he made instant democra-

cy his slogan," giving Beijing a

pretext for dismembering the

wholly-elected Legislative

Council and "repealing liber-tarian legislation passed with-

The result, feels Sir Percy,

has been five years of confron-

tation and the isolation of a

Governor "increasingly out of

touch with local public opin-

ion". On this, Sir Percy has not

read the polls; they show much support for Mr Patten.

out its consent".

The massacre in Beijing, not Chris Patten, soured Hong Kong's view of China, says Jonathan Mirsky

Sir Percy gives himself away. "The Sinologues" of the Foreign Office, he recalls, once "guided" Brinsh policy in handover. The other interest is that Sir Percy is an adviser to financial institutions with interests in China and is a director of Hong Kong's South China Morning Post, published by Robert Kwok Hong Kong Sinologues con-centrate on China; to them Hong Kong was simply the last colony, over whose head who has strong connections in Beijing.
Sir Percy believes Hong Kong's fate is "the story of a bad mistake" — the "bad Sir Percy negotiated the 1984 agreement and to which the Foreign Office said after 1984

take it or leave it". However, although its people are Chinese, Hong Kong is not yet China, as Sir Percy, who has only visited the place, does not know. Its culture and its politics are

Sir Percy glides past the Tiananmen Square killings of 1989, which "provoked a mood of emotion and revulsion". He remembers that The Times and The Spectator called for denunciations of the 1984 deal. However, the real "emotion and revulsion" were in Hong Kong, where one million marchers, who had welcomed

rage at the future sovereign.
That is when the situation changed. That is when the then Governor, Sir David Wilson, angered Beijing by condemning the killings and calling for the construction of morale"

Sir David promptly found himself nearly as isolated as Mr Patten is today and the airport delays were used as a stick to beat the British. Ever since, people in Hong Kong have favoured public figures labelled "black hands" in Beiling. All this began long before Mr Patten lost his seat in Bath in the general election

Sir Percy suggests that once again we have seen "the besetting sin of British foreign policy: the incapacity to put ourselves in the shoes of the other side".

The real "other side" is Hong Kong, seen by some Foreign Office Sinologues as "a whingeing place for which diplomats have bled". Anyone who lives here, and is not one of the 100 per cent docile and silent business community, could tell him that it was the blood on the Tiananmen paving stones, not John Major and Chris Patten, who undid Sir Percy's hard work.



Steve and Sarah McSevich show off their son on HMS Plover in Hong Kong yesterday. Sam, who arrived last month, is the last baby born to a British forces couple before the handover to China

Tutu faces | Kim pins treatment as cancer spreads

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TIMES

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN JOHANNESBURG

ARCHBISHOP Desmond Tutu announced yesterday that his prostate cancer has spread and he will undergo a combination of hormone treatment and radiotherapy to try to

check its advance. The Nobel laureate, who underwent initial prostate surgery in January, said he had been advised by doctors in the United States that the cancer is believed to have penetrated beyond the prostate gland and that radiotherapy was now the "best option".

While he plans to maintain a "normal schedule", the news has raised concern as to how his illness will affect his work as chairman of the Truth and leconciliation Commission After his three-month hormone treatment in Cape Town, he will spend two months undergoing radiother-

apy at an American clinic. His absence, and fears that he may be unable to work to full capacity if his health deteriorates further, are seen as worrying developments for the commission, which is nearly halfway through its

Tensions have been running high lately over its sensitive investigations, with politicians criticising its work and angry exchanges between the National Party and the African National Congress. The Arch-bishop has been widely praised for the delicate and precise manner in which he has dealt with many of the problems the commission has faced, and there is concern that without him the process of uncovering South Africa's bloody past could run into

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savings over other

blame for food crisis on party

FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TORYO

MEMBERS of North Korea's ruling Workers' Party have been rebuked by Kim Jong II over the desperate food short-age that has left even the armed forces without supplies, a South Korean news-

paper said yesterday. "A state of anarchy is being created because of food problems. I do not know what party members are doing." Mr Kim, revered as "Dear Leader", was quoted as saying. "People are found almost everywhere scrounging for foodstuffs, and even the People's Armed Forces have not received food supplies," he

The criticism, reported by Chosun Ilbo, was made in a speech by Mr Kim, the son and political heir of North Korea's founder, Kim Il Sung, who died three years ago. The newspaper, which published scoops on last month's defection in China of Hwang Jang Yop, North Korea's top ideologue, said that it had obtained the text of the speech made on December 7 in Pyongyang, the North Kore-

Mr Kim was quoted as saying: "American imperialists will make an all-out attack on us at any moment if they come to know that even foodstuffs for the military are virtually exhausted. Strengthening the armed forces must be our priority." He urged party members to find ways to

feed the military.

His recriminations hint at tensions within the party hierarchy. Mr Hwang's defection apparently came after arguments over how to deal with the food crisis.

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Tough glamour met soft tailoring in a glossy French Fashion Week





Left: JEAN PAUL GAULTIER, gleaming suits and woolly scarves turned up the heat. Right: GIVENCHY, Alexander McQueen combined creativity with commercial appeal

Great moments beneath the wrapping

uring Paris Fashion Week, which finished yesterday, many of the shows played to the excesses of the industry. They were all about flashy packaging, but when the layers of make-up, loud music and colourful set dressing were peeled away, ideas were often thin on the ground. Despite a showing of excellent — some might say vintage — collections for Autumn/Winter 1997, the prevailing mood in the city was gloomy.

However, there were moments of greatness. Alexander

However, there were moments of greatness. Alexander McQueen's first ready-to-wear collection for Givenchy was shocking. Good shocking, mind you. The elegantly tailored suits (best in purple leather), watered-silk kimono jackets, grey trousersuits, punched creamy leather and leopardskin lace not only made a strong style statement but also huge commercial sense. This collection proved that the young punk from East London is now ready to play with the big boys.

Menswear looks are Ann Demeulemeester's forte. Her low-slung trousers have become the templane for the season, so it was great to see her take another step forward. Soft leather and jersey dresses were draped and belted about the body, while oversize suits in salt-and-pepper wool looked enviably comfortable.

looked enviably comfortable.
Yohji Yamamoto offered a
tailored silhouette straight out
of the 1940s and 1950s photographs of Irving Penn. Flyfront suits in herringbone

PARIS

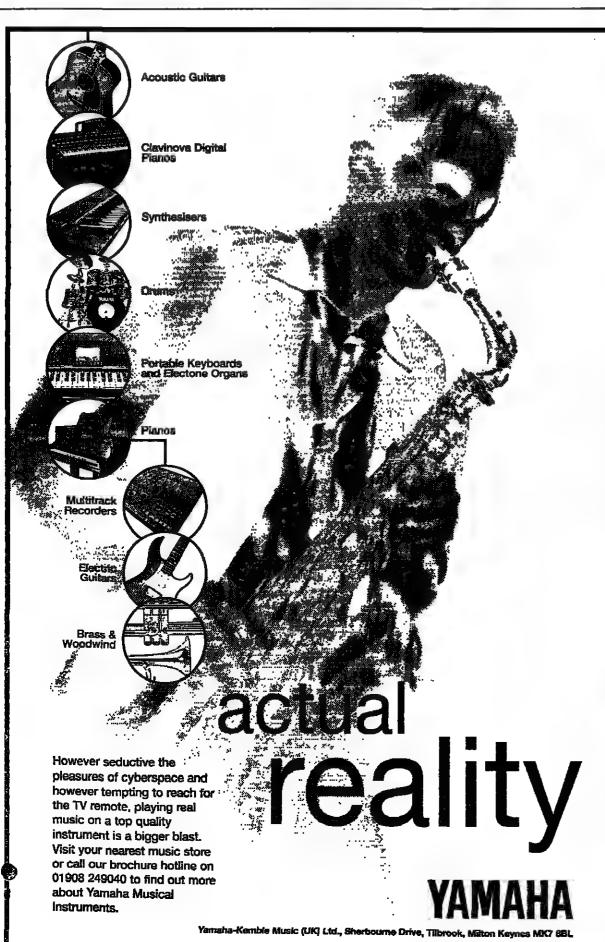


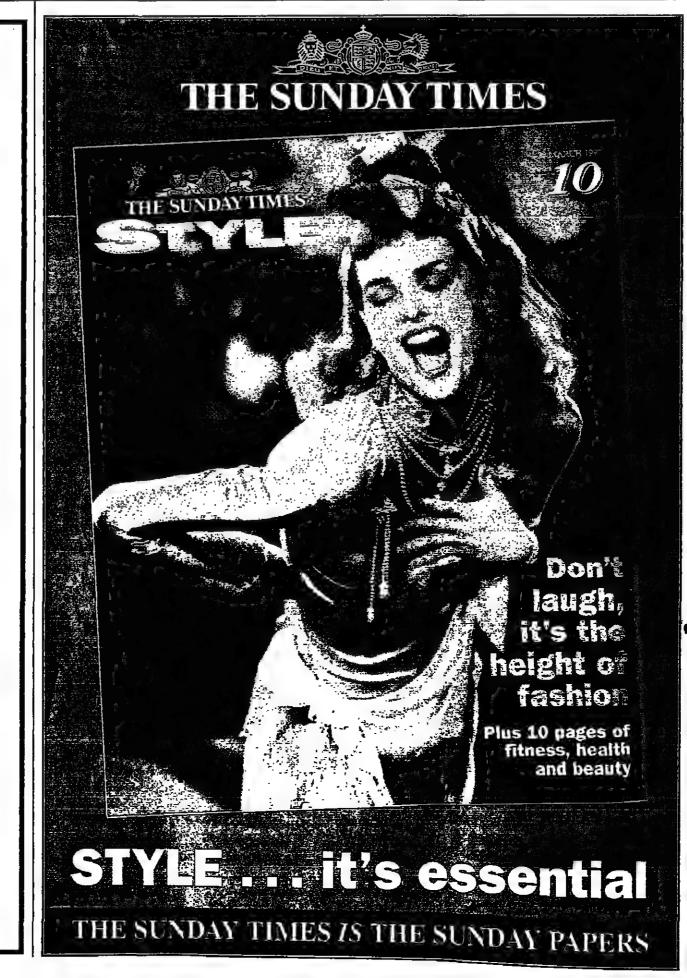
with fur, were shown next to rhinestone-studded jackets in black jersey, while a tuxedo suit in the same fabric merged day and night.

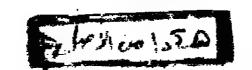
There was a blurring of glamour girls and butch boys on several catwalks. Martine Sitbon's slashed and sequined chiffon was worn with strictly tailored leather. Cerrut's clean-cut tailoring, tweed coats and hand-knit sweaters were offset with soft jersey and, maybe, too much filmy chiffon; and Sonia Rykiel offered jersey trouser suits and louche velvet bathrobe coats.

There was a clash of cultures, colour and cloth at Christian Lacroix, Rifat Ozbek and Emanuel Ungaro. Each showed their own version of "melting not" glamour.

"melting pot" glamour. Fashion doesn't come much







which showed McQueen's startling first collection for Givenchy



YAMAMOTO: elegance in a nostalgic mood

Continued from facing page more glamorous than Valentino or Chanel. This season Valentino gave his collection a tougher edge (all lace and glam-rock glitz) while Chanel's best were its soft, Annie Hall-style tweed trousersuits.

Quietly tailored clothes can make equally great fashion: Helmut Lang offered creamy winter whites (also seen at Issey Miyake and Comme des Garcons) alongside his now famous stark black suits and pretty-but-not-prissy party frocks in velvet and tulle. Better still was an accordionpleat skirt which resembled a half-opened Chinese parasol. Both grand master Yves Saint Laurent and new boy Eric Bergere presented showroom lows, Each featured strong shoulders and sleek silhouettes which merged 1970s chic with 1990s realism. Kenzo and Jean

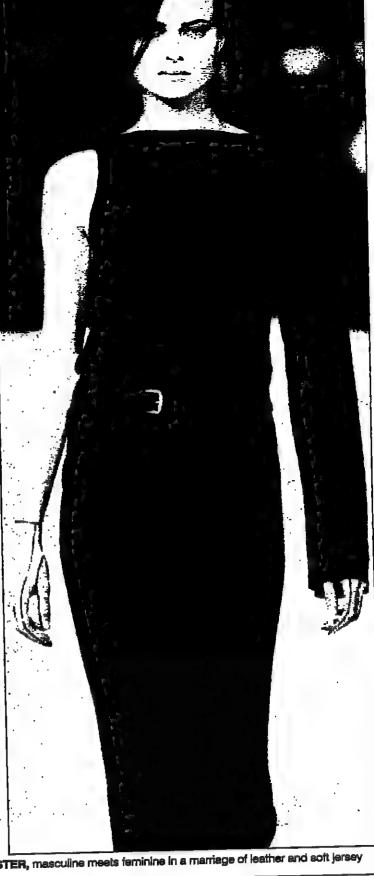
Gaultier showed terrific collections which effortlessly combined showmanship with down-to-earth designs. Kenzo continued his love affair with all things oriental - lush paisleys, roomy robe coats, speckled tweeds and patchwork prints - while Gaultier offered a homage to home girls - gleaming oversized suits, hooded cashmere knits. tunics and long skirts. Both designers showed tuxedo looks and mini-skirts over trousers. Neither had need of gaudy gift wrap.

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Patients on the drug should

stick to a similar diet each day. Sudden changes in the menu. particularly in the amount of

vegetables, which are rich in

Vitamin K, eaten can interfere

with anti-coagulant control. Alcohol intake, too, must be

consistent. Binges at the regi-

mental dinner are disallowed,

and even periods of abstinence

in an otherwise

regular moderate

the balance. Any alteration in a pa-

tient's diet or a

change in their

general health is a

more frequent

blood testing.
The anticoagu-

lant effect, and hence the likeli-hood of bleeding, is

increased by most

analgesics such as aspiring and by anti-rheumatic prepa-

rations. Long-term use of paracetamol may, by affecting liver function, also enhance

warfarin's action, but it is safe

for emergency use in the short

should also take care when

they choose anti-maiarials, some of which are available

Many antibiotics and anti-

fungal preparations, as well as

some antidepressants, will af-

fect warfarin's performance

Indigestion should not be

treated with over-the-counter

Cimetidine, whether Tagamet,

Algitec, or Dyspamet, without

consulting their doctor, and to

a lesser extent drugs such as

Losec can enhance warfarin's

and can cause bleeding.

over the counter.

Patients using warfarin

good indication for ...

drinker can upset

a finger

on the pulse

hen Lucy and medicines. Doctors are ad-Scampy, the Norfolk vised to check in the national

Take care

with

changes in

diet - and

dont

binge

ing on the marshes on a bleak

February night, their owner went looking for them. The framic search, together with the cold east wind, upset the

dog owner's heart rhythm and

he developed atrial fibrill-

like a car's engine when the

timing has slipped, the irregu-

larity is likely to disturb any

clots, which may

pass into the cere-bral circulation. If

a clos sticks in a

small blood vessel

and obstructs it, a

stroke may result.

Lucy's owner was lucky. The clot

soon moved on and

he was left with no

derectable brain

damage. Lucy and

Scampy are happy.

and active again.

The patient has to take warfarin, the commonly prescribed

anticoagulant, regularly. Tak-

ing warfarin is more of a

nuisance than having a daily

aspirin but for patients who

are fibrillating, warfarin's greater ability to prevent clot formation, and another tran-

sient stroke, makes the incon-

venience worthwhile.
The BMA has appealed to

patients to stock up with their

repeat prescriptions before the

four-day Easter break, when surgeries will be closed. Doc-tors will continue to provide

emergency treatment, al-

though many more medicines

are available without

prescription.
The availability of over-the-

counter drugs has caused

some trouble for patients on

warfarin because its action is

affected by so many other

When the heart starts firing

Dr Thomas Stuttaford on a new herbal treatment for cancer; pig valves in heart surgery; taking care with warfarin

A Chinese tree that prolongs lives

mainstream doctors and is even. in rather modified forms, dispensed at the Royal Marsden Hospital, London, one of the great medical centres of the world. Among the most successful of the new anti-cancer drugs are Taxol, made from the Pacific yew tree, and Taxotere made from the clip-

pings from British yew. Rhône-Poulenc Rorer announced today that its new anti-cancer agent Campto CPTII, which is also prepared from a tree, has been licensed for the treatment of adult patients who have colo-rectal cancer, once the tumour has spread and is no longer controlled by the established chemotherapy, the fluorouracil 5,

Campto, which has been tested in multinational trials. is derived from a Chinese tree, the Xi-Shu, or "tree of happiness". It was given the official name Camptotheca acuminata by European botanists who brought it back to France in the Victorian era. It had previously been described in a Chinese herbal book published in 1848, but its medicinal properties were discovered only in 1957. At that time their

use proved very difficult as it was almost impossible to make a solution of the crystalline substance which had the anti-cancerous action. The problem of solubility has now been overcome. Xi-Shu is a fast growing tree which can put on a metre and a half in a year, and is fully mature within 20 years.

Until 1965 there were only 30 Xi-Shu trees in the whole of the United States, but once there was a suggestion that it had anti-cancerous properties it was widely imported from China. Now the tree, which was previously used to provide waterside shade, is growing in plantations all over the souther states. It will also grow in France and the United

Kingdom. So far as Mr Welr Larsen, of Warlingham in Surrey, is concerned there could be no more appropriate name for Xi-Shu than the tree of happiness, as extracts from it have prolonged, and revolutionised, his

In June, 1991, Mr Larsen, who noticed blood in his motions and a change of bowel habit, immediately consulted his doctor. Larsen, like 28,000 other British people each year. colon. When the cancer was



Sir Robin Day is recovering from an operation in which a faulty heart valve was replaced with one from a pig

ONE of Sir Robin Day's heart valves has been re- Sir Robin in good heart professor Brian Pentecost, placed by one from a pig. tion, said: "Most patients will need the anti-coagulant warfarin for only a few months but they will always have to be careful to have antibiotic cover if they have surgery,

Such operations have been carried out for more than 25 years: in the early days the death rate was about 25 per cent, but it is now 4 to 5 per cent. Sir Robin has made an excellent recovery. Some surgeons prefer to use human valves, but pig valves

are more readily available and come in different sizes. Natural valves, unlike artificial ones, never break but they calcify and wear out. The younger the patient the speedier this process of calcification. In these patients a valve might be needed within seven to ten years; Sir Robin's should stay in

removed by surgery it was noticed that he had six or eight

small secondaries scattered

throughout his liver. Dr

David Cunningham, of the

Royal Marsden Hospital,

thereafter undertook the care

of Mr Larsen, who was initial-

Larsen went into complete

remission for two years, and

the secondaries disappeared.

in 1993, Mr Larsen became

treated with 5-FU. Mr

Campto as an outpatient. He resistent to SFU and tumours has now had 18 treatments, at were found in both the liver and lungs. It was decided to a drug cost of £833 each time. give him Campto every three For a few days afterwards he weeks, and now his lungs are feels a bit tired and queasy, "all but free" of cancer, and the and takes tablets to overcome this. Mr Larsen has lost his tumours in the liver are only

half the size they were. hair, but otherwise feels well. Mr Larsen has blood tests The extensive trials have twice a month to exclude shown that the administration damage to his white blood of Campto every three weeks cells, but if all is well he has an influences the progress of colorectal cancer in patients who have either failed to respond, intra-venous infusion or have become resistant to

> Dr Cunningham said: "The treatment is not a cure, but it can prolong life, and a proportion of people have a reason-

ably long remission." Further trials are now being carried out to assess the value of Campto as a first-line drug, one which could be given either at the same time as surgery, or when secondary tumours from the initial growth are first detected.

accident to his knee joint caused an injury rather great-er than was assumed. When his knee buckled, he tore the tendonous attachment of the powerful quardriceps muscle in the thigh where it joined the kneecap.

of the British Heart Founda-

invasive investigations or dental procedures. If the dentist's

work damages the gum, particularly if it is inflamed or infected, antibiotic cover should be given. Patients also need

Antibiotics are needed to prevent any gum or mouth infection spreading via the bloodstream to heart tissue.

THE TOMES HATCHARDS GARDEN FORUM.

Meet Tim Smit and

Penelope Hobhouse

READERS of The Times are invited to a gardening forum with two of Britain's leading experts, Tim Smit and Penelope Hobhouse on Tuesday, April 15 at 7.30pm at the Royal

Geographical Society, I Kensington Gore, London SW7. The forum, chaired by Stephen Anderton, The Times Gardener, marks the publication of Hobhouse's latest book,

Gardens of Heligan (Victor Gollancz, £20).

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to maintain a high level of oral hygiene."

The President is already having gentle physiotherapy; later these exercises will become tougher and more painful. He will need crutches for some months and shouldn't think of being back on the golf

course in less than six months. Whereas patients who rupture their quadriceps tendon usually do well in time, tendon injuries to the lower upper limb such as those Clapham Junction, and this

sustained by Lisa Potts, the heroine of the machete attack complicates recovery. Miss Potts most have had on schoolchildren in the Midmore than a 90 per cent lands, will take longer to heal, and the result may be less chance of death, so perhaps she is fortunate to have survived with severe scarring The forearm and wrist have on her neck and back and as many tendons running some weakness in

over them as there are rails at Jeed.

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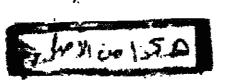
Injured tendons mean complicated recovery

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S

Surgeons drilled holes into the kneecap through which they stitched the muscle back Vicryl.



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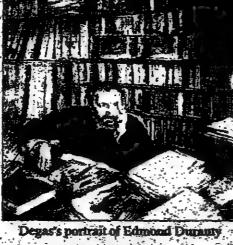
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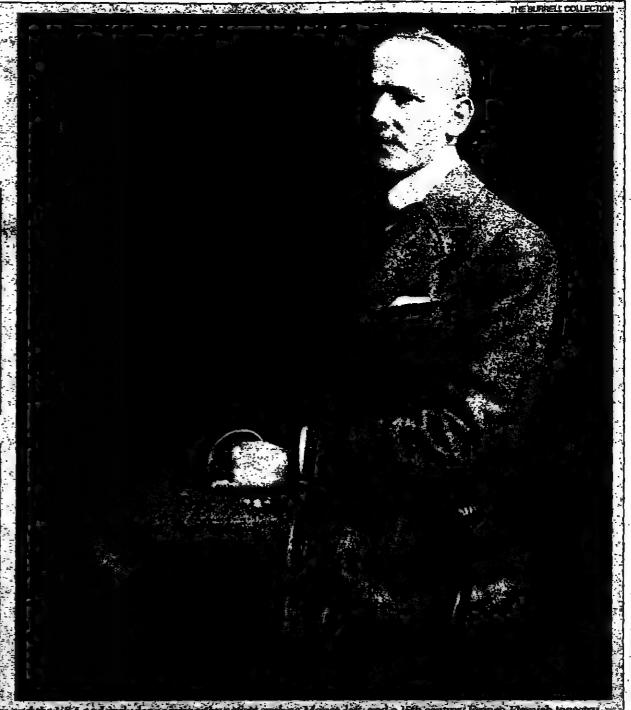
: cl recovery

William Burrell's bitter legacy









outskirts of Glasgow is home to the Burrell Collection, one of the most remarkable private collections of art ever assembled by one man. Presented to the city in 1944 by Sir. William Burnell, an idiosyncratic Glaswegian shipowner and philanthropist, the collection is at the centre of a legal dispute that could set a precedent likely to discourage future bequests from collectors. For Glasgow City Council seeks nothing. less than to alter the terms of Sir William's will by revoking. through a private Act of Par- former keeper of the Burrell liament, the provision that Collection, Richard Marks, prohibits any of the 8,000

items being loaned abroad. Just why Burrell, who died in 1958 aged 95, made such a bizarre stipulation remains a compelling mystery. He has no direct descendants to speak for him. His only child, Sylvia, died in 1992 without having children of her own. The rest of the family has remained resolutely silent. His greatniece, Mona Dickinson, however, spoke to The Times: "My great-uncle knew precisely what he was doing. He died in

benefits of air travel. I'm afraid his motives must remain an enigma."

Like many late Victorian entrepreneur-philanthropists Burrell was a man apart. Born in Glasgow in 1861, he joined the family firm of shipowners when he was just 14. From 1885 he ran Burrell and Son, transforming it into a dominant player in the competitive world of marine commerce.

Austere, secretive and utterly uncompromising, Burrell was harder to like than admire His biographer and describes him as a complex personality who cannily concealed his emotions. His letters were monuments of

reticence, betraying no trace of his aesthetic sensibilities. From his childhood he was imbued with a strong sense of moral rectitude, not to say impropriety has through any source."

Glasgow's head of museums and galleries is seeking a private Act of Parliament to revoke the terms of an art collector's will, threatening the chances of further bequests. Jason Cowley reports

Slowly, though, his knowledge and expertise caught up with his increasingly obsessive enthusiasm. A meticulous collector, he recorded his purchases in a series of notebooks.

By the end of the First World War, Burrell had sold his fleet of ships and was living in baroniai splendour at Hutton Castle in the Scottish Borders. In an unhappy echo of the decline into which Burrell's trustees claim the gallery housing his collection has fallen, it now lies in ruins.

Living quietly with his wife, Constance, Burrell devoted his later years entirely to art collecting. "Starting as a private

collector, he became a collector for than for himself," former keeper of the collection. Julian Spalding.

head of museums and galleries at Glasgow City Council, is behind will. He sug-

gests that as a shipowner haunted by the perils of the sea, Burrell made his stipulation because he did not want his pictures travelling over water. The Burrell trustees dispute this claim: he simply wanted his collection viewed as a totality.

Mona Dickinson laments the fact that the collection currently has no keeper or proper catalogue. "It was a very generous bequest. When Richard Marks was keeper of the collection it was terribly zingy and exciting. Everyone

ST.JOSEPH'S HOSPICE MARE ST., LONDON ES (SA (Charity Ret. No. 231323) An Easter

Message

nig Easter and all seasons Sister Superior

against the best interest of the spend a bomb getting a new Act of Parliament to change Burrell Collection." the will but surely that money would be much better spent on looking after the collection. What they propose is deeply

Private collectors are monievents carefully. Str Denis Mahon, who announced last year that he was leaving his fabulous collection of Italian Baroque paintings to er museums under strict pre-

> ing's initiative as a terrible precedent". "I am absolutely against altering anyone's wishes. It must be opposed. [It would] discourage people like myself from

scriptions, describes Spald-

neglected now.
"Glasgow is prepared to

upsetting.

DUNE

wishes'

faced a vote of no confidence by his museum staff, insists that changing the will would powerfully

enhance the cultural life of Glasgow, enabling him to establish a system of reciprocal loans with overseas galleries. Concerned with falling attendance figures at the gallery, he hopes to use the loans as "reasers" to attract more tourists to Glasgow. The Burrell Collection had more than one million visitors in 1983, its inaugural year; that figure fell to 280,000 in 1996.

The trustees of Sir William's will respect the family's opposition. They insist that the council accepted the gift on conditions that must be honoured. "The Burrell Collecrion is not just another art gallery and museum, it is the visible testimony of one man's achievement in the pursuit of his lifelong enthusiasm and of his taste as an art collector," says Colin Donald, chairman of the trustees.

Peter Wordie, another trustec, is adamant that the will should not be changed. The council wants to drive a coach and horses through Burrell's will. I cannot see anyone ever

gifting anything again.*
These views infuriate Spalding. The only reason for having trustees is for them to think about what a benefactor would have wanted in changed circumstances," he

Affordable Lifetime From

wanted to see it. But it is says. "If they are opposing was a real magpie collector, change, they should not exist. The trustees are working

> What most impresses about the Burrell is its range and eclecticism. There are paintings by, among others, Bellini, Manet, Rembrandt and Degas; Gothic tapestries, Persian glass and alabasters. "Burrell rolled into one."

agrees The Times critic Richard Cork. "He was a no-holdsbarred collector, although it is said he liked a bargain. His impressive range of impressionist paintings lead you to expect a certain kind of collection, but there is so much diversity that the Burrell is like the Victoria and Albert Muse-

collection to Glasgow Corporation he did so on the proviso that it was placed in a country setting at least 16 miles from what was then the polluted city centre. For the next 40 years Burrell's princely assemblage was scattered in museums and storerooms before finding a home in Pollok Park - and then only after he had agreed to rescind his earlier stipulation after the implementation of the Clean Air Act.

Spalding is convinced that if Sir William were alive today he would show similar flexibil-William became increasingly be the lawyers.

later life. He did not feel that the council was doing enough to find a home for his collection. But the spirit of his gift was very generous: I'm sure that he would have loved to see his work in the Louvre and other great institutions.

"Despite what the trustees say, lending is in the spirit of his gift. I don't feel I am betraying him at all."

Burrell famously said that it is the collection, not the collector, that is the important thing. Unless the dispute is resolved quickly the true beneficiaries

Male Urinary 'I am primness, and not a hint of absolutely posterity rather Discomfort? says Bill Wells, a He began buying pictures in against late adolescence, the principal value of which, as he waggishaltering giving." Spalding, who ly conceded, lay in the frames. anyone's earlier this month Nothing is more disrupting for men than not being

able to get a good night's sleep because of the urge 'to go', particularly in the small hours. Now, research proves that the active ingredients in Sabalin help reduce the need to urinate frequently and improve your flow too. So you, (and your partner) can get a good night's sleep.

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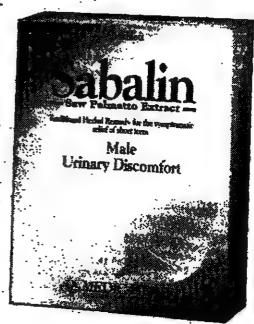
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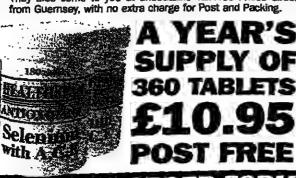


At last, Selenium, one of the most vital dietary supple is being given the press it deserves!

The Unition Medical Journal and the Jo astonishing pieces of research in the last two months Their results indicate that Selenium is cardio-protective cancer preventing and can help delay ageing However, as Dr Larry Clarke from the Anzona Cancer Centre

recently pointed out, "Selenium is different from most other nutrients in that you can't be sure how much is in your diet it varies hugely in foodstuffs." With Healthspan, you can be certain of getting the right amount of Selenium. Our tablets combine 100mcg of Selenium with Vitamins A, C and E at 100% of the Government

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How Scots Tories could surprise us

Even Michael Forsyth may just

hold on, says Magnus Linklater

impending return of the Unionist candidate for Ross and Cromarty from a holiday in Casablanca prompted the Scottish Daily Record to break into verse

He is coming! The whisper thrills From the Muslim mosques afar. On the lonely Ross-shire hills Men watch for a moving star. For a glitter and a gleam of wings. For a throb on the morning clear, And their eyes speak wonderful

And their hearts say, "Hush! He is near!"

The candidate in question was Randolph Churchill, Win-Randolph Churchill, Whitston's son, flying in to challenge Malcolm MacDonald, Ramsay's son, in the famous by-election of February 1936. There may have been the merest touch of irony in the Record's poem since Randolph was not expected to make much headway in this far-flung constituency. Nor did he. Then, as now, the Unionist cause found little favour in the north. When Brendan Bracken cabled Winston Churchill in the course of the campaign, it was to report: "More stags than Tories in Cromarty."

The Record's quaint doggerel suggests that those were gentler times. I doubt whether that ferocious-

Rifkind,

Forsyth

the trend

iy Labour-supporting newspaper will be resorting to any-thing as subtle as irony (or poetry) this time around. Its aim, along with the Scotland, will be to

traces of Toryism from a part of the United Kingdom where its adherents are already an handful of Conservative MPs, including three Cabinet ministers, some of them with waferthin majorities, looks, on paper, as likely to survive as the rural lairds they once

So why are these men smiling? Why is their mood one of relentless optimism? Why, unlike their colleagues not only that they will hang on, but that they might even gain a seat or two against the prevailing trend? For that is what they maintain. I have this week been offered a serious bet at very reasonable odds that the Tories in Scotland will raise their present total of ten seats to a round dozen (so repeating the success of 1992, when they also gained two) and that all three Cabinet ministers will survive. One explanation could be that this is simply the jauntiness of the gallows, a case of Morituri te salutant. But the claim merits closer inspection.

It rests on the proposition that the Conservative cause, which once enjoyed majority support in Scotland, has touched rock bottom, and can only, from now on, go up. It is sustained by the belief that new Labour has failed to win the support north of the border that it enjoys in the South. And it is nurtured by the barnstorming performance of the Secretary of State for Scotland, Michael Forsyth. with his taunts about Labour's "tartan tax" and his vigorous defence of Scottish interests. It

t is sixty years since the is pointed out that the Conservatives' current standing in the polls of 17 per cent is almost exactly what it was at the same time in 1992, from where it rose, on election day, to 26 per cent.

Say all that quickly and it sounds quite convincing. Add some robust campaigning against the Nationalists as a as the people who will sell out the fishing industry to Europe. and you have, at the very least, an interesting few weeks ahead. But there are some flaws here. For a start, that 17 per cent is what is known as by about three points to take account of the apparent inabil-ity of Scottish voters to admit that they are Tory supporters. Then there is the national anti-Government impulse which runs deeper than anything in 1992 and shows no sign of wilting. Finally, the threat of a tartan tax appears to leave most Scottish voters unmoved. As John Curtice, the veteran psephologist from Strathclyde University, puts it: "The tartan tax has had an effect on the Labour Party, but not the electorate." The mountain that the Tories have to climb this time around is, in short, far higher than any-

thing they faced in 1992. Where they are Lang and on stronger ground some of their highprofile candidates may buck may hold out against the trend. Ian Lang, fighting the Nationalists in

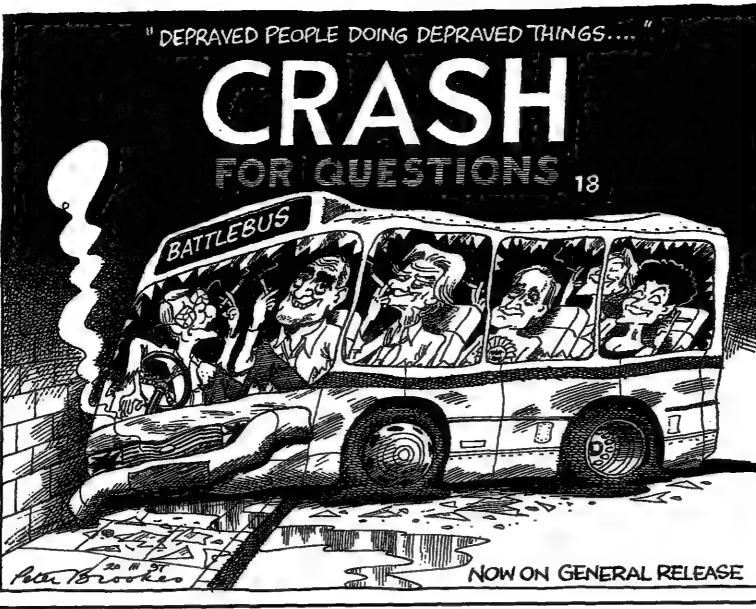
> his reputation as a solid performer on behalf of Scottish trade. Here, the strength of the candidate and an effective local organisation could well hold off the challenge. Malcolm Rifkind, confronted in his Edinburgh Pentlands constituency by another QC, Labour's Linda Clarke, has the respect accorded to a "weel kent" figure who, as Foreign Secretary, has rarely been off Edinburgh a strong sense of pride in a local son who has achieved success on the national stage while remaining

> Galloway, will benefit from

his ministerial standing and

And then there is Michael Forsyth. His Stirling seat is among the country's most vulnerable, and Labour will channel any resources necessary to win it. Their candidate. Anne McGuire, needs a swing of only 0.6 per cent, while boundary changes reduce Mr Forsyth's 703 majority to less than a third of that. But the odds against him last time seemed every bit as great, and he held on. His fame, or notoriety, in Scotland could scarcely be greater, and his policies have won him respect if not affection.

Against all the odds, therefore, he might hold Stirling. My betting Tory friend goes further. He claims that Mr Forsyth will not only win, but will romp home with a majority up to four figures. And so, aided by the strong personal qualities of their candidates, the Tories in Scotland just might surprise us all. It's a crazy enough idea to merit a few lines of verse.



What is Blair burying?

The announcement of the election seems to have crystallised the attitude of the electorate. As in 1906, 1945 or 1979, this is probably going to be one of the elections that reveals a shift of consciousness in British politics. The opinion polls and the byelections say there is going to be a Labour landslide, probably comparable in scale to the Labour victory in 1945, perhaps even to the Liberal victory in 1906. This victory will be the result of a shift in public perception which has been developing for a long time. Indeed it could even be dimly foreseen in the 1950s. What is happening in Britain is not

the death of Toryism, which will only

come about with the death of human

nature. It is the death of socialism.

That, paradoxically, has released the energy which looks like producing a political landslide for Labour. After the 1959 election, in which I had been the Conservative candidate for a safe Labour seat in Durham, I was asked to join my party's central policy committee, which had been set up to plan the Conservative Ian Macleod was our chairman; the whole committee was kept very secret, with the agenda circulated in numbered double envelopes. A year loyal to his home town. or two into the 1959 Parliament, we had a dinner meeting with the Prime Minister, Harold Macmillan. One of his themes in the discussion was that another Conservative victory would destroy the old Labour Party. Labour would be forced to recognise that there was no alternative but to abandon socialism, in the form of nationalisation, state control and attempted equality of outcome. Har-

> virtually a social democratic tract. The Conservatives did not win the 1964 election, and by then Hugh Gaitskell had died. That delayed the death of British socialism until the 1990s. The "Gang of Four", who deserve to be remembered with gratitude, tried to kill it in the 1980s, when they formed the breakaway Social Democratic Party in alliance with the Liberals. But the old Labour Party rejected them. Michael Foot was a left-wing Labour leader, but even Neil Kinnock and John Smith were still in some sense socialist, even though they were moving the Labour Party to the right. Margaret Thatcher's three election victories, and John

old Macmillan was not afraid of

social democracy; indeed his pre-war political book. The Middle Way, is

The glorious revolution on May 1 will not be the death of Toryism;

it is the death of socialism

Major's election victory in 1992, which can now be seen to have had a momentous impact on the Labour Party, achieved what Harold Macmilian had hoped for in the early 1960s. The Labour Party had to accept that socialism was not electable; they made Tony Blair their leader and decided, in the Clause 4 vote, to abandon the commitment to state ownership.

In the meantime, socialism had failed spectacularly outside Britain. In the 1960s the rhetoric of the Soviet Union was still taken seriously. When Khrushchev said he would bury the West by

superior socialist economic growth, there were many people in Britain might be right: some feared it and at least a few hoped for it. The

decline of the Soviet Union under Brezhnev and its break-up under Gorbachev and Yeltsin was accompanied by the repudiation of Marxist economic centralism in China. The ex-communist states of Eastern Europe were seen to have been ruined by their socialist experience.

epeated electoral defeats for the Labour Party, combined with the total model in other Marxist model in other countries, led to the election of Tony Blair, who has forced through a revolutionary rejection of his party's central doctrines. The social democratic idea has long influenced the Conservative Party, which is why new Labour and old Conservatives look so much alike. Not only Harold Macmillan, but the entire left-wing Conservative tradition down to Kenneth Clarke has been entirely compatible with social democratic

In terms of electoral calculation, a social democratic Labour Party was always likely to be a winner. Hugh Gaitskell thought so after his 1959 defeat. When The Times commissioned an opinion poll to gauge

support for a left-of-centre coalition in the early 1970s, it showed that a social democratic party would then have had a large majority. The alliance between the Social Democrats and the Liberals, even though it failed to win the core of the Labour Party wote, briefly had a lead in the opinion polls and came quite close to a breakthrough in the 1983 election.

The 1992 electoral arithmetic was

The 1992 electoral arithmetic was already beginning to look ominous for the Conservatives. if one supposed that a social democratic party could be created in the Labour Party itself. The Conservatives in 1992 won

42 per cent of the vote, Labour 34 per cent and the Liberal Democrats 18 per cent. If one supa third of the Liberal Democrats were really social democrats, along

with just a fifth of the Conservatives, that shift would convert the 1992 vote to Conservatives 35 per cent. new Labour 48 per cent and Liberal Democrats 12 per cent. Such a shift would produce a landslide on the 1906 scale, and the current opinion polls show an even bigger Labour ead than that.

From the Tory point of view, this historic shift must be welcome, even if the price should be the defeat of the Conservative Party for one or two Parliaments. Socialism has been the enemy in a way that social democracy never can be. Socialism destroyed nations and damages those it did not destroy. Britain's deplorable economic performance between 1945 and 1979 was rooted in the socialism of Attlee's Government of 1945. It was an honourable Government but with disastrously wrong ideas; it built the post-war British economy on the model of state socialism, just as Nehru built the Indian economy, and with similarly disastrous results. Despite the relaxation of the socialist system under the Conservative Governments from 1951 to 1964, Margaret Thatcher was the liberator. If her

work has liberated even the Labour

miumph and not a disaster for the

long-term interest of the country. The shift of ideas in the Labour Party explains why the Conservatives are facing a massive defeat when they have not governed particularly badly; in this Parliament they have at worst made early mistakes and tried to recover from them. John Major's place in history will not be among the great prime ministers — he is not a That-cher, a Churchill or a Lloyd George — but he will not be placed among the disasters either. He leaves the economy in sound condition. Most prime ministers have been in this middle group, and it is an honourable achievement. If John Major is now about to be turned out, the repudiation seems likely to be out of proportion to the failures of his performance.

landslide will produce its own aftershocks. When Campbell-Bannerman was elected in 1905, shortly before the election, nobody could foresee either the achievements or the failures of the Liberal Government certainly a Government of great men. including Asquith, Churchill and Lloyd George: its main achievement was the creation of the first welfare state. Tony Blair himself will not come to power with a national mandate for new policies, since he has been only too careful to minimise his policy commitments, but he does seem likely to come in with the big bang of an election landslide. That will in itself greatly impress people. There is no argument like a threefigure majority in the Commons.

There is one great drawback. Without Margaret Thatcher there would have been no new Labour; the progression has been from Thatcherism to social democracy. It ought to have been the other way round. Any realistic reader of the social democratic press - of The Guardian, The Ob-server or The Mirror - can see the built-in obsolescence of current social democratic ideas, but these flaws are being overlooked in new Labour and in Tony Blair. If we had gone through the experience of social democracy after the war, we would not be contemplating it now to solve our present problems. The glorious revolution that may be coming on May I will show that socialism is dead; it will also show that the British are only now climbing painfully into the world of the 1960s.

The best part of a lifetime

Muriel Spark on her place in English letters

Tour warm endorsement of this most important award, the David Cohen British Literature Prize, has made me very happy: The stated purpose of the award one that appeals greatly to me, for have indeed dedicated a lifetime to the art of letters and to perfecting it to the utmost of my talents and

It is exactly 70 years ago that, at the age of nine, I set forth upon my literary life. My first work a poem, was an intended improvement on Robert Browning's The Pied Piper of Hamlin. My elders and teachers were somewhat intrigued by this ruthless rewriting of the "Piper Pied" as I called him (so as to rhyme with "he cried". And so, where angels feared to tread I continued to rush in with my improvements on many such examples of English literature, available in plenty as they were in the Edinburgh public libraries.

Eventually I settled down to pro-ducing original work of my own poems and stories - and I have been at it ever since, with the result that I stand here this evening to thank you from the bottom of my heart for this great honour.

A few years ago I was called to the University of Aberdeen to receive an honorary degree. It was conferred on me by the then Chancellor, Sir Kenneth Alexander. After the ceremony he asked me, "Do you remember Miss Kissock?" With a little thought I did indeed remember kindly Miss Kissock, our first infant teacher at Gillespie's school, Edinburgh. Sir Kenneth, about my age, had shared those warm experiences with me when we were little more than toddlers — the play-boxes and the coloured plasticine. And there he was in his glittering robes and there I was in my scarlet gown. What does one do with the best part of a lifetime? I thought of the lines of Robert Louis Stevenson from Keepsake Mill:

feel fortunate in having been born in a rich century for literature. It is the century that produced the ground-breaking Waste Land of T.S. Eliot and the spell-binding A la recherche du temps perdu of Marcel Proust. It is a century that stretches from Chekhov. Pirandello and Sciascia to Garcia Marquez; from E.M. Forster, Joseph Conrad, Virginia Woolf and Graham Greene to Milan Kundera, Iris Murdoch, Saul Bellow and John Updike. We have had critics of art and literature indispensable to civilisation - scholars of brilliance and wit such as Lytton Strachey, Herbert Read, Allen Tate, Lionel Trilling, and onward to Frank Kermode and Gabriel Josipovici, the more to enrich our powers of appreciation and discernment. The list is a long and dazding one.

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As for the novel itself, though it is often pronounced dead I am convinced that it is very alive. So long as experiments in prose continue, so does novelty of thought, so do invention and imagination.

The 20th century, in fact, has been buoyed up with an abundance of literary talent and originality pressed down and flowing over. To be a writer in such an atmosphere of achievement has been, to me, a fulfilling and fully rewarding activity. To have been able to contribute to such a great tradition is in itself a high privilege.

hat turn will literature take in the century to come? — drama? poetry? — A lot depends on the pathways opened by communicative technology. Let's hope it will be as inspiring in the field of creative writing as the development of printing methods in the West in the 15th century proved.

One thing I am persuaded of: the world of communications has to be fed by travel. Nothing can be done without it. Proust wrote: The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new lands, but in seeking with new eyes." This is an ultimate truth, never to be overlooked. But it has surely to be qualified by the likelihood that "new eyes" are very greatly stimulated by new faces, new sights and sounds. To me, travel is the life-blood of literature. We have to find at first hand how other people live and die, what they say, how they smell, how they are made. I recommend travel to young authors.

And also to authors not so young. So far, you have been too polite to ask me how I intend to use the handsome prize-money that goes with the British Literature Award. I can say right away that I intend it for my travels, starting with a lovely, new, suitable motor car, which Hope will bear me in and out of our famous tunnel with ever more ease and pleasure.

Thank you again, and again. This is the Dame Muriel Sparks acceptance speech from last night's award ceremony in London. In addition to the prize, the Arts Council of England gave £10,000 to Muriel Spark's former school, James Gillespie's High School, Edinburgh, on which her novel The Prime of

Miss Jean Brodie was based.

Cross to bear

THE SALE yesterday for £27,000 of a Victoria Cross awarded during the Indian Mutiny of 1857 has devastated an elderly widow, whose son virtually gave it away last November to pay off a loan.

George Forrest handed over the medal awarded to his great great grandfather, Captain George Forrest, to repay a £4,000 personal loan. Ethel Forrest, 84, his mother, is broken by the sale.

"My son needed the money for his computer business." she says from her home in Oxford, "so he borrowed it from a man calling himself a broker. But after three months he could only repay £1,000, so he gave the man the medal. He didn't know how much it was worth and I was in hospital at the time. I would have found him the money if he really needed it."

Captain Forrest was awarded the VC as a 59-year-old officer in the Bengal Veteran Establishment. He and a small band of men were guarding the British Army's main ammunition store, the Delhi Magazine, when it was attacked by munneers. Three VCs were won

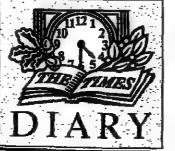
Mrs Forrest has been told by the Fraud Office and the auctioneers

that, unjust as it may seem, the deal was entirely lawful. There is no chance of redress.

"Auctioneers have been coming up to try to persuade me to sell for years." says Mrs Forrest, a Yugoslav by birth. "It was the most treasured possession of my husband, who died ten years ago. The auctioneers told me I could get a replica. I don't want a replica. I want my medal back."



"Can we get him along for a signing?



● The election campaign has dealt an ugly blow-dry to Andrew Neil. man about town and Editor-in-Chief of The Scotsman. For the course of the campaign, the BBC has dropped The Midnight Hour. on which he hosted a post-prandial chat, alternating with others, such as Sir Bernard Ingham, whose glory days are behind them.

Frame-up

MICHAEL HOWARD would be well advised to avoid the Michael Parkin Gallery in Belgravia next month, when it hosts an exhibition of prison art. The immates' work. which will hang alongside that of established artists, has been cho-

sen by Sir Stephen Turnim. Turnim is best known for his period as Inspector of Prisons, when he bated Howard mercilessly with his criticisms of government policy, and his selection in 'The Judge Hangs" exhibition includes the work of hard-timers such as Ray Scobie, who is serving a murder sentence in Nottingham, I understand that Turnim hopes to secure Scobie a place at the Ruskin School of Art in Oxford on his release.

Death row

THE OXFORD and Cambridge crews limbering up for their annual bout between Putney and Mortlake at the end of the month are considering another competition which would make the Boat Race look like a paddle on the Serpentine.

Both teams have been invited to compete on the Amazon against the Brazilian Rowing Federation in a "friendly fixture". But hostile jungle conditions — freak rapids, piranhas and blood-sucking leeches - are expected. The Brazilian Rowing Federation is offering expenses, and both camps think it would be churlish to refuse.

• Late in the Lords the other night, Baroness Blatch revealed some of the secrets powering the Upper House's Tory front bench. Rounding off her final performance as the Home Office minister for this Parliament. she



McCartney and son: how much of the talent has been passed on?

thanked her whip, Lord Courtown. "for glasses of lemonade, from time to time a Polo mint or if I am lucky, a chocolate".

On the run?

WITH a knighthood under his belt. Paul McCartney feels perhaps that it is time to hand over the musical reins. His son James, 19. makes his debut appearance playing guitar on the ageing Beatle's

new album. Flaming Pie. Hitherto, the publicity-shy Mc-Cartney has made efforts to keep

his children out of public view. On the other hand, he has often insisted on being accompanied by his wife Linda when performing on stage - even though Linda's performances have not always re-

ceived critical acclaim. The Beatles jettisoned early edits of Hey Jude with Linda on backing vocals, and when she started playing keyboards with McCartney's group Wings, coloured stickers were attached to the keys to help her along.





OPEN HOUSE

Major can and should publish the Downey report

The slide from stubbornness through bluster to defeat has too often marked this Government's weakest moments. From the forlorn defence of the ERM to the abortive beef war brave words have become like ash in ministerial mouths. Now, with his position on Sir Gordon Downey's "sleaze" report, the Prime Minister is in danger once again of making his stand on treacherous ground. In setting his face against publication he is defying not just the opposition parties and the Member with the most to lose. Neil Hamilton, he is acting wholly contrary to the public interest.

As we argued yesterday, and others have argued since, the voters whose support will be solicited by Mr Hamilton and others need to know if their candidate is a "liar and a chear" or an honourable member. Sir Gordon was explicitly charged by the Prime Minister with delivering a judgment before the election. He has fulfilled his part of the bargain. If Sir Gordon's investigations are embargoed until after the election, this denies Mr Hamilton, his colleagues, and the voters the justice they deserve.

The publication of Sir Gordon's report is a matter for Parliament, not the Government. But it is as a result of the Prime Minister's decision that Parliament is denied the chance to permit publication. Because Parliament is prorogued tomorrow, the Standards and Privileges Committee cannot sit to consider Sir Gordon's report after that date. Sir Gordon's report will not be ready until next week. By that time the only place it can go is a Whitehall safe. The Speaker made it clear yesterday that the timetable had been set and she could do nothing. The Prime Minister, however, could,

It is within the power of Her Majesty's Government to move the date of prorogation. That need not mean shifting the date of Parliament's dissolution, or the election. It need not mean members itching to campaign being penned into Parliament. Shifting prorogation does not require a new sitting of Parliament, it is simply a flexible adaption of the timetable which would allow the Privileges Committee to sit even though other MPs were absent. It would not be conventional to shift the prorogation, but then it is not conventional for Parliament to prorogue 18 days before it needs to in advance of a general election and that is what the Government is currently doing.

The Prime Minister has protested that "mischievous" is too kind a word for allegations that he has fixed the election timetable to avoid the publication of the Downey report. It would, we accept, be out of character for Mr Major to engineer such an outcome. His desire to maintain the highest standards in public life is conspicuous. Nevertheless, now that this situation has arisen, it would be consistent with Mr Major's sense of honour to explore mechanisms which might allow for publication, such as shifting the date when Parliament prorogues.

The pressure for publication will not abate. Already elements are leaking and other members, as well as Mr Hamilton, are finding themselves in trouble. The folly of some members, and the reckless campaigning of outsiders, has seen the reputation of Parliament and the Conservative Party suffer, often unfairly, over the last five years. If both are to preserve their reputation then openness is the only answer. Mr Major should acknowledge that before it is too late.

COLD PEACE IN HELSINKI

Clinton must limit the damage of Nato expansion

East-West summits are less momentous occasions than they used to be. During the Cold War, expectations for world peace hung on a few carefully staged meetings when the leaders of the two superpowers bargained over their nuclear arsenals. Now they are routine. Presidents Clinton and Yeltsin have already met 11 times.

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Today's meeting, however, has something of the old atmosphere. The venue, Helsinki. is redolent of the days when Russians and Americans chose neutral Nordic territory for their encounters; familiar themes are back on the agenda, arms control, nuclear weapons and the clash between Moscow and the Atlantic Alliance.

For both leaders, the stakes are higher than they have been for years. Both have been recently re-elected, and need to give firm personal direction to their new administrations. Mr Yeltsin, especially, will be under intense scrutiny to see whether he has fully regained his physical and political strength. He has just announced a bold reshuffle of his Government, promoting capable young reformers. He must now demonstrate equal dexterity in defending Russia's interests abroad. Mr Clinton, beset by a growing scandal over campaign funding, has an interest in reasserting some leadership over the Western world.

This summit will help to determine whether Russia and the West are really able to forge a new strategic relationship, or whether they will slip back to the old ways of mutual suspicion, acrimony and confrontation. The issue is Nato enlargement. This illjudged policy has already stirred up atavistic antagonism across the spectrum of Russian opinion. It has now, belatedly, aroused the opposition of many Western military strategists and politicians, who are asking how they blundered into the proposal

without proper debate or rationale. There is no easy way back, however.

Many promises have been given to would-be applicants, and much political capital invested in the preparations. At least three new members - Hungary, Poland and the Crech Republic - now seem guaranteed admission at Nato's Madrid meeting in July.

What the Helsinki summit must do is to mitigate the damaging uncertainty that this new dividing line through Europe will cause. Western leaders say that the Russians have already accepted the fact of enlargement, and are now only holding out for better conditions. This is only partially true. Russia will never fully endorse the movement of Nato's frontiers further east. It may reconcile itself to enlargement, knowing that it is powerless to insist otherwise. But Mr Clinton would be foolish to imagine Russian approval for a policy which will, at best. bring perpetual negotiation.

He should concentrate on securing a parallel Russia-Nato agreement. This is important in itself, and should not be linked to the enlargement process. Russia needs a degree of dignity and voice in the management of European security. Mr Clinton must offer Mr Yeitsin a genuine partnership while not giving him a veto over Nato policy-making.

The decision on enlargement, and the need to satisfy Russia after the decision. has left the West with a weak hand in dealing with Moscow. As a consequence, nothing can be held out in front of them as a deterrent against potentially bad diplomatic behaviour. Discussions between the guilty and the impotent are invariably unsatisfactory in both content and form.

Mr Clinton can, and probably will, make concessions of value in other areas - on full Russian membership of the G7 or in revision of the outdated Conventional Forces in Europe treaty. To get the package right, he will need to deploy all his political skills. personal charm and imaginative diplomacy to convince a sceptical Boris Yeltsin.

THE FIRST EUROPEANS

Etruscans, Basques and Islington man

Down the centuries, from Pompey the Great to Franco the Small, and from Madrid to the Parc des Princes, the Basques have been called many things. But until Jorge Alonso nobody had thought of calling them Etruscans. Señor Alonso's research, reported by our Madrid Correspondent, offers a new answer to one of the puzzling questions about the long climb of man from the other beasts.

Language is a defining characteristic of man. It both shapes and restricts the way he thinks, by reflecting primitive human concepts such as the collaboration of the hunt and the fireside. Language makes possible planning, organisation, memory and society. And Basque and Etruscan are both very ancient, very odd languages. They have no known structural or historical relationship to any other language. Linguistic jargon describes such solitary tongues as "isolates". Basque is the only surviving language of those spoken in southwest Europe before the Indo-European invasions. Etruscan was the language of Tuscany before it was swamped by the golden voice of ancient Rome and the twitter of modern Islington.

Señor Alonso's previous work suggests that Basque and other prehistoric and mostly forgotten languages were brought to Europe from North Africa. He argues that tribal migrations were driven by pressure on land, war and change of climate in Africa. And the tribes brought their languages with them. Others think that languages spread by linguistic osmosis from man to man and settlement to settlement rather than by such

mass movements of population. But Señor Alonso now claims to have found significant similarities between Basque and the epitaphs and inscriptions that are all that are left of Etruscan. For example, the two old languages share the same word for "death". a topic that obsessed both cultures.

Herodotus said that the enigmatic Etruscans came from Asia Minor. But Herodorus. although a story-teller who still casts his ancient spell in the film The English Patient. is not infallible on the origins of man. Nobody is. For science, like mankind, advances by its hypotheses and mistakes. not its certainties. It has been said that though God cannot alter the past, historians can. It is perhaps because they can be useful to him in this way that he tolerates them.

But the roots of the oldest languages of mankind are still of interest. As we report on our books pages today. Horace has a new biographer. A Berber ancestry would indeed be a novel concept for Maecenas. Horace's patron and campaign co-ordinator for Augustus, who was "descended from Etruscan kings". It may be surprising that the smiling, fun-loving, feminist Etruscans may be related to the dark and misogynist Pyreneans. But the suggested connection has relevance beyond prehistory, archaeology and protolinguistics. For man's future, as always, builds upon his past. This is as true of language as it is of man's other skills. To communicate across the millennia to man's remotest ancestors is exciting, scientifically fascinating, and distinctively human.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Regulators' view on windfall tax

From Dr Keith Hampson, MP for Leeds North West (Conservative)

Sir. As a member of the committee, 1 must repudiate Gordon Brown's claim that the report on energy regu-lation by the House of Commons Select Committee on Trade and Industry backs his case for a windfall profits tax (report, March 19).

We found that at the start of privatisation, shareholders in the regional electricity companies did dispropor-tionately well, but that shareholders' prospects have varied since then and in the gas industry they have not been particularly good. We also said that we find it hard to see how it would have been possible, prior to floration, to have accurately estimated likely efficiency gains".

The regulators reacted to their underestimate by adjusting their subsequent price reviews to benefit customers. Britain now has the cheapest industrial gas and electricity in Europe and domestic consumers have seen electricity prices fall by 15 per cent and gas prices fall by 24 per cent.

Our conclusion was to commend the retention of the present system of regulation because it is designed to encourage efficiency savings. Companies first strive to increase profits and thereafter the regulators pass on the benefit to customers through periodic price reviews.

In giving evidence to the committee, Professor Littlechild, the electricity regulator, argued that hy adjusting his price controls he had "dealt" with the windfall of the early period. Moreover, he indicated that in all likelihood the companies would seek to pass on any windfall tax to their customers.

Yours faithfully, KEITH HAMPSON, House of Commons. March 19.

Power of the press

From Mr Rov Greenslade

Sir, Simon Jenkins ("It's the voters wot win it". March 19) rightly points out that two research studies into the possible effect of The Sun on the 1992 election result reached very different conclusions.

What he did not say is that both failed to offer genuine insights into the relationship between a newspaper's political bias and its readers' casting of votes because they restricted themselves to studying only the election

In passing. Mr Jenkins touched on the key point that companies spend millions of pounds a year advertising in papers in the knowledge that what people read certainly does influence them to buy.

If they can be persuaded to buy, then surely they can be persuaded to vote. However, no advertiser would he foolish enough to think a single hit is good enough to indoctrinate a would-be buyer. It is the drip-dripdrip of a lengthy campaign which works. The same is true of editorial content. Neil Kinnock and John Major were each vilified for five years in The Sun. The insults Mr Kinnock suffered in the final week were merely the coup de grace. Mr Major will get his next month.

Yours sincerely, ROY GREENSLADE. 5 Arundel Terrace. Brighton, East Sussex. March 19.

TV debate

From Mr Aubrey Thomas

Sir. A television confrontation berween the leaders of the Conservative and Labour parties and your front-page headline today. "Major and Blair hit campaign trail", suggest we are heading for an American-style presidential election. This is nothing like the traditional British election between parties with their different ideas and aspirations.

Flectors who vote for personalities should remember that in the next fiveyear partiamentary term, the Conservanve and Labour parties can reject their leaders without any reference to the electorate.

Yours faithfully AUBRLY THOMAS, 5 Birdham Close, Bickley, Kent.

Lrom Mr Adam Ward

Sir. The prospect of a televised debate between party leaders marks another stage in the progress of personality polines and should be resisted. We may expect attention to be focused further on participants' ties, suits and hairstyles - at the expense of any real examination of their policies.

Yours sincerely. A P. WARD. 99 Most Avenue. Green Lane Coventry, Warwickshire, March 17

From Mr James Armon

Sir. Taking everything into account, I think that I would prefer to spend the nexi six weeks in Albania.

Yours despairingly: JAMEN ARNOTT. 30 Bunbury Way, Epsom Downs, Surrey, March 18

> Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Israel's hard line on settlements

From Mr Anthony Rubin

Sir, Like Mr A. J. Cotton (letter, March 17) I too lived in Israel for 12 years and, like his son and daughter. I served in the Israeli defence forces. am still an Israeli citizen. Why should I not state publicly in Britain what I and the majority of Israelis state publicly in Israel, namely that provocative acts should cease and governments should follow the Oslo accords whole-

heartedly and generously.

If my public statements in Britain were able to influence and lead to the overthrow of the present Government, so that Israel could revert to the Rabin/Peres track for peace, I would have done a great deal for the State of Israel.

Even in England I can assure Mr Cotton that I can understand complex issues and be well informed. You don't have to stand in Jerusalem to realise that building now in the east of the city is likely to jeopardise the peace process and provoke the violence which this Israeli Government can use to justify further intransigence.

It is a cynical policy and can itself lend to the destruction of the State. I will say publicly that I am against it, wherever I happen to be. I happen to be a "candid friend" of Israel, not this Israeli Government.

Yours, ANTHONY RUBIN. Wicker House,

Wicker Lane, Hale Barns, Cheshire. From Sir Cyril Townsend, MP for

Bexleyheath (Conservative) Sir, Nick Oulton (letter, March 11) asks why "it is seemingly not accept-

Police bugging

From Dr C. N. M. Pounder

Sir, In your report today of Alison Halford's claim before the European Court of Human Rights that her telephones were illegally bugged on a warrant of the Home Secretary, you quote a Home Office explanation that eavesdropping by the Merseyside Police on their own telephone system was outside the scope of the [Interception of Communications] Act and would not require a warrant".

The UK Government is a signatory to the Council of Europe recommendation R(95)4 which concerns "the protection of personal data in the area of telecommunication services, with particular reference to telephone services". This provides protection to users of telecommunications systems and lays down rules with regard to "use of listening or tapping devices" by "public authorities". Paragraph 2.4 of this recommendation states that such action

able for Prince Charles to visit Israel.

Perhaps part of the answer is that Israel since its creation has failed to

live within internationally recognised

borders, and continues to occupy by

force of arms large chunks of territory

Sir, People who refer to the reuni-

fication of Jerusalem in 1967 as an

illegal occupation by conquest fre-

quently seem to regard its forcible

livision by conquest by the Jordanian

Army in 1948 as part of the natural

course of events and its result as the

Jerusalem was one city from ant-

iquity until 1948. It passed, yes by con-

quest, through various hands, begin-ning with King David and continuing

with Babylonians. Greeks, Romans,

Arabs, Crusaders, Arabs again, Turks, and finally Allenby, but al-

ways as one city, with many peoples living, mostly within discrete quar-

ters. Only in 1948 was it divided and

this pattern disrupted. Nineteen years

later it was reunited, and so it remains

today, once again one city with many

peoples living, mostly in discrete

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant, JEREMY MONTAGU,

years is accepted as the norm?

171 Iffley Road, Oxford.

Why is it that so brief a period of 19

belonging to its neighbours.

From Mr Jeremy Montagu

Yours faithfully, CYRIL TOWNSEND.

House of Commons.

status quo.

quarters.

March 14.

must be carried out only when this is provided for by law and constitutes a necessary measure in a democratic society in the ina. protecting state security, public safety,

the monetary interest of the state or the sup-pression of criminal offences: b. protecting the data subject [ie, the indi-vidual to whom the data relates] or the rights and freedoms of others. It is interesting to speculate wheth-

er these criteria apply in Ms Halford's

Yours sincerely, C. N. M. POUNDER (Co-editor), Data Protection News. Cap Gemini UK, 95 Wandsworth Road, SW8. March 18.

Love of the land

From Mr R. P. Voelcker

Sir. Sir John Acland (letter, March 15) implies that small farmers are good conservationists while large farmers are not. In a sense this is true, but it is mainly conservation by default, as small farms tend to occur where the land is unsuitable for arable cropping.

It is nonsense for Sir John to suggest that "vast areas of the countryside have been wrecked". Much of it is different from a century ago, as the needs of a much increased population, and war, have necessitated efficient arable cropping; but the only "greed" is that of the public for cheap food.

There could have been many more areas opened up solely for arable but many arable farmers enjoy country sports and are prepared to spend much of their profits in planting and

maintaining woods and hedgerows for foxes and pheasants. The worst thing that can happen to

the preservation of the countryside as we know it - and it is still very beautiful - would be a ban on hunting and shooting. The environment necessary for foxes and pheasants is exactly the same as is needed by many other birds and most mammals.

If hunting is banned there would be nothing to stop most farmers from attempting to exterminate the fox. Spinneys, coverts and woodland would be cut down. Then there really would be a bare arable plain for the critics to complain about.

Yours faithfully. R. P. VOELCKER. Avils Farm, Lower Stanton St Quintin. Nr Chippenham, Wiltshire.

Spain and Gibraltar

From the Ambassador of Spain

Sir, Your report (March 7) on schoolchildren travelling on a collective passport from Gibraltar who were denied entry to Spain diverges from

Spain recognises the Gibraltarians' right to circulate freely within the territory of the EU in strict accordance with Community rules, and will continue to do so. Consequently your correspondent's reference to a Spanish promise to "respect the validity of all ravel documents issued in Gibraltar"

Spain does not refuse to acknowledge collective passports. What Spain does not accept, and never will, is a document which states "Gibraltar" as the "Country of issue". Gibraltar is not a country. This is the only reason why the document was not accepted.

On November 30, 1996, another collective passport issued on identical terms was equally rejected. Your report mentions the British Embassy in Madrid's statement suggesting that children were used "to pursue political aims". If anyone is in a position to make such a suggestion, it would have to be my Government.

Yours sincerely. ALBERTO AZA, Spanish Embassy. 24 Belgrave Square, SW).

Doctors who drink

From Dr Robert Lefever

Sir. In response to concerns expressed over a doctor remaining in work despite his heavy drinking, (report, March 6) a judge has recommended that doctors should have compulsory two-yearly health checks. This is an excellent suggestion but it

presupposes that doctors know how to diagnose the early stages of alcoholism, rather than the terminal phase, and that they would be prepared to express concern about colleagues' behaviour. This is something that tends not to happen while alcoholism is still generally perceived as a disgrace, or a product of weak will, rather than as an illness for which the sufferer can be given help.

Health checks are fine but they depend upon understanding in those doctors who perform them. The primary need is for advances in medical education on this subject.

ROBERT LEFEVER. 2a Pelham Street, SW7. March 6.

Churches in Scotland From the Reverend Father

Godfrey Hartley

Sir, in a report today, under the heading "Organ row threatens royal patronage of Balmoral church" you refer to the Kirk Session, the elders who manage the affairs of Anglican churches in Scotland".

Neither Kirk Sessions nor elders manage Anglican affairs in Scotland, or elsewhere for that matter. Crathie Kirk is Church of Scotland (ie, Presbyterian) and not part of the Anglican Communion.

The Anglican Church in Scotland is the Episcopal Church, which is synodical and episcopal in government. Yours sincerely.

GODFREY HARTLEY (Secretary of the Missions to Seamen in Scotland, 1973-89), Sandoes Gate. Feock, Truro, Cornwall. March 17.

Business letters, page 33

Preservation of Cabinet archives

From Dr John P. Fox

Sir, You report ("Cabinet told to save E7m by tackling 'paper mountain'", early editions, March 12] a potential conflict arising from the Cabiner's desire to save costs on the storage of government records and the needs of archivists and historians to preserve

important documents for posterity. There is a further factor about which you do not comment, which must apply in all departments of State in Whitehall: how will the ubiquitous use of computers and internal e-mail affect the written record of the government decision-making process that will be passed in the future to the Pubhic Records Office for use by histor-

Do civil servants and ministers print out and retain every single policy document they draw up and communicate to each other through their computers, or have policy guidelines been laid down as to what levels of communication may be dispensed with through use of the dreaded "de-

lete key? One of the real joys of working through British government papers at the PRO, certainly up to 1945, is that in general one can be sure that almost all of the important pieces of paper are there in the files.

Yours etc. JOHN P. FOX (Lecturer in Jewish history). Jews' College, 44a Albert Road, NW4. March 12.

In due order

From Mr Geoffrey Wheatcroft

Sir. In your obituary of Dame Veronica Wedgwood (March 11) you say that "even among her own sex she eventu-ally had to yield pride of place to such younger successors as Cecil Woodham-Smith and Elizabeth Longford".

Mrs Woodham-Smith was born in 1896 and Lady Longford in 1906. C. V. Wedgwood was born in 1910. Since you are writing about historians, for whom accurate chronology is the first virtue, shouldn't you use words like "younger" with more precision?

Yours faithfully, GEOFFREY WHEATCROFT. The Express. Ludgate House, 245 Blackfriars Road, SEI. March II.

Sexism at Cambridge From Mr David St Vincent

Sir. Despite all the fuss about King's College banning the poster advertis-ing Selwyn College's May ball because it was "degrading to women" (report and picture, March 13, early editions), sexism remains alive and well at King's.

At the same time as the college women's officer vetoed the poster, a notice was put up in our porter's lodge by the university Women's Campaign about a forthcoming women's event here. It ended by saying that men would be permitted entry "if accompa-

nied by an adult". Yours etc. DAVID SI VINCENT, King's College, Cambridge.

Enoch's return From Mr R. F. Coales

Sir, In your third leader today, "Posterity puzzle", you draw attention to Sir Max Beerbohm's account of Mr Enoch Soames's bargain with the Devil, which allowed him to visit the Reading Room of the British Museum as it would be 100 years later, on June

For the purpose of the Devil's bargain the Reading Room needed to be much the same as in 1897. Soames would have been lost in St Pancras. It is hardly surprising then that the move to this site has been dogged by delays: their origin is clear. I am sure that the move will go

ahead without a hitch, once the anniversary is over. Yours faithfully. R. F. COALES Park House, West Rasen.

Market Rasen, Lincolnshire. March 17.

From Mr Andrew Porter Sir, If Enoch Soames, on his centenary visit to the Reading Room, consults the lifth edition of Grove's Dictionary (1954), he'll find he was not

quite forgotten. Federico Mompou's early piano pieces, he'll read, "suggest the lovely

lines of Enoch Soames: Pale runes irresolute. and traceries of old sounds. blown from a rotted flute, mingle with a noise of cymbals rouged with rust".

In that wonderfully highflown Mompou entry, by Walter Starkie. Soames keeps company with Browning, Thornton Wilder and Sir Thomas

Grove's editor evidently swallowed jeu d'esprit hook, line and sinker. When I cited it in a 1978 review of a recital by Mompou, and the New Yorker printer read "pale tunas irresolute", 1 was tempted to let his emendation

Yours faithfully. ANDREW PORTER. 9 Pembroke Walk, W8.



COURT CIRCULAR

a Press Conference at the Palliser

The Duke of Edinburgh, Founder

and Chairman of the Internationa

and Chairman of the International
Trustees, afterwards presented
certificates to young people who have
reached the Gold Standard in The
Duke of Edinburgh's Award Young
Canadians Challenge.
His Royal Highness this evening
attended a Dinner for The Duke of

attended a Dinner for The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Young Canadi-ans Challenge at the Bow Valley Club, Calgary. March 19: The Princess Royal, Pa-

tron, The Butler Trust, today pre-sented the Annual Awards at the

Victoria and Albert Museum, London

Her Royal Highness, President

The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, this afternoon attended a trustees meeting at the BT Centre, Newgate

Street, London ECI.
The Princess Royal, Commandant in Chief, St John Ambulance and

Nursing Cadets, this evening at-tended a Reception at Buckingham

Palove.
CLARENCE HOUSE
March 19: Queen Elizabeth The
Queen Mother this afternoon received the Presidents of Queen
Mary's Clothing Guild at St James's
Palace on the occasion of the Guild's
Annual General Meeting.
The Hon Mrs Rhodes was in

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 19: The Duchess of Gloucester. Patron. SeeABILITY, today visted the Headquarters, 56-56
Highlands Road, Leatherhead, Afterwards Her Royal Highness, Patron,
St John's School, visited the School,
Epsom Road, Leatherhead, Surrey,
VOPE HOUSE

YORK HOUSE
March 19: The Duke of Kent this
evening presented the Montblanc
Award for patronage of the arts to Sir
George Christle, at the National
Portrait Gallery. St Martin's Place,
London WCZ.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
March 19: Princess Alexandra,
accompanied by the Rt Hon Sir
Angus Ogilvy, this afternoon undertook engagements in Bermuda.
Her Royal Highness visited Arcadia, a home run by the Bermuda
Mental Health Foundation, and later
visited Stone Hall, a residential care
facility run by Fair Havens Christian
Care Association.

of the British Red Cross, accumpa-

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE

KENSINGTON PALACE

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

March 19: His Excellency Mr John Bojang was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Commission as High Commissioner for the Republic of the Gambia in London. Mrs Bojang was also received by

Her Majesty. Sir John Coles (Permanent Under-Secretary for Foreign and Common-wealth Affairs) was present.

His Excellency Mr Surya Shrestha and Mrs Shrestha were received in farewell audience by The Queen and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador from the Kingdom of Nepal to the Court of St James's. Her Majesty held a Council at 12.30

There were present: The Rt Hon Antony Newton MP (Lord President).
the Baroness Chalker of Wallasey
(Minister of State, Foreign and
Commonwealth Office), the Rt Hon Commonwealin Critics). The Ri Tolk Sir Patrick Mayhew MP (Secretary of State for Northern Ireland), the Ri Hon Roger Freeman MP (Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster) and the Ri Hon David Curry MP (Minister of State, Department of the

State, Department of the Environment).

Mr Nigel Nicholls was in attendance as Clerk of the Council.

At the Council The Queen pricked the List of High Sheriffs for the Counties of England (other than Cornwall and those in the Duchy of Lancaster) and Wales.

The Rt Hon Antony Newton MP had an audience of Her Majesty before the Council.

hear an address of the visages, before the Council, the Rt Hon Roger Freeman MP had an address of The Queen when Her Majesty pricked the List of High Sheriffs for the Counties

of the Duchy of Lancaster. This afternoon The Queen, Patron. Initial the Blue Cross Animals Hos-plial, Hugh Street. London SWI, in its Centenary year, and was received by the Chairman of the Board of Governors (Dr Alastair Porter) and the Chief Executive (Mr Alan Kennard).

ennard). Her Majerry this evening dined at the Connaught Hotel, London WI, on the occasion of the Hotel's Centenary, and was received by the Chairman of the Savoy Group (Sir Ewen Fengusson) and the Chairman of the Connaught Hotel (Sir Anthony

The Duke of Edinburgh, President Emeritus, World Wide Fund for Nature - WWF International, this fly to Canada. His Royal Highness this afternoon

The Queen, as Patron, will visit the Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Road, South Kensington, at 2.45.

The Prince of Wales, will visit the

Wolverhampton Express and Star.
Queen Street, at 11.20; us President,
The Prince's Trust, will attend a
presentation on work of the trust at
Wolverhampton Wanderers Footbell
Ground, Mollineux Stadium, at 12.20;

will attend Tomorrow's World Live at the NEC. Birmingham, at 2.05; and as President, The Prince's Trust.

miere of Star Wars at the Odeon,

The Princess Royal will attend the Faculty of Public Health Medicine spring meeting and deliver a lecture

o mark the 25th anniversary at the

Royal College of Physicians at 5.20.

Princess Margaret will attend a reception at the Imperial War Mu-

reception at the Imperial War Mu-seum at 7.15 to mark the eightieth

birthday of Dame Vers Lynn and view the Forties Fashion and the New

The Duke of Gloucester, President

British Consultants Bureau, will at-tend a dinner at the Royal Thames

The Duke of Kent, as Vice-Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board.

will visit United Kingdom Glass Eels.

Leicester Square, at 8.00.

of the British Red Cross, securing-died by the Rt Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy, this evening attended a Reception and Dinner for the Bermuda Red Cross given by the Governor (HE the Rt Hon the Lord Waddington) at Government House, Hamilton. arrived in Calgary, Alberta, and gave

Royal engagements

£9,000 masterpiece is now worth millions

Restoration reveals hidden details

By DALYA ALBERGE ARTS CORRESPONDENT

ONE of the greatest masterpieces by Veronese, the 16thcentury Italian painter, has returned to the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital after a year-long restoration programme in which X-rays revealed dramatic changes to its composition. The removal of dark and yellowed glazing has uncovered radiant colours and details that had been lost for decades.

Robert Cocke, a leading Veronese scholar based at the University of East Anglia, expressed excitement at discovering that the figure of Christ in The Resurrection a massive nine by five ft painting - had been reversed.

Veronese (circa 1528-88), a master of light and colour who specialised in biblical and historical subjects and who was inspired by Titian, decided to vary the pose. In doing so, he had moved away from an earlier version of the subject, which he painted for San Francesco della Vigna in Venice.

Dr Cocke said that the restoration had revealed a whole range of colours in the tradition of Titian and Bellini that had been completely concealed by dark glazes. Details such as a pair of sandals belonging to one of the sleeping soldiers are seen clearly for the first time. The colours work in terms of the narrative, so you're aware of the visionary figure of Christ."

The hospital bought the painting in 1950 for a mere £9,000. Estimating its multi-

Birthdays

today



The Rev Bernard Hughes, senior hospital chaplain, looks at parts of the painting that were hidden

million value today is diffi-cult, Dr Cocke said, "There has not been a comparable picture on the market."

The painting was removed from the chapel in 1995, for an exhibition at the National Gallery in Athens, the first time it had left England since Sir James Wright, a wealthy traveller of the day, acquired it in Venice in 1767.

Susan Loppert, director of the Chelsea and Westminster

Hospital Arts Project, explained that in 1950, the hospital chaplain, the Rev Christopher Hildyard, had

wandered down Bond Street, in search of something to place over the altar. Having found the Veronese at Colnaghi's, he persuaded the trustees to agree that, if he raised £2.000 by public subscription, they would raise the rest. The picture will be upveiled on Monday.

Dinners

shire Lieutenancy Vice Lord-Lieutenant.

The Marquis of Huntly
The Marquis of Huntly last night entertained members and guests at the Institute of Commercial Management's Annual Dinner in the House of Lords. The guests

Included:
Professor Derek Gladwell, OBE, and
Mrs. Gladwell. Professor Alan
Smithers, Professor Alandari
Mithers, Professor Alandari
Mithers, Brand Mrs. Michayle,
Professor Thomas Garsvan,
Professor and Mrs. Michael
Rimmingion. Dr Pamala Robinson.
Dr Norbert Schmitz and Dr and Mrs.
Laurie Mullins.

Royal College of Anaesthetists Mr Stephen Dorrell, Secretary of State for Health, and Mr Gerald Malone, Minister for Health, attended the anniversary dinner of the Royal College of Anaesthetists held last night at Plaisterers' Hall. Professor Cedric Prys-Roberts, president, was the host. Professor Gareth Roberts, Vice-Chancellor of Sheffield University, was the speaker. Earlier Professor A. An-

Lecture and the president presented Dr S.M. Lyons with the College Medal and Dr D.J. Greaves with the Fellowship ad

United & Occil Club Sir Sydney Chapman, MP, was the host at a dinner of the United & Cecil Club held last night at the House of Commons. Sir Marcus Fox, MP, chairman, presided. Mr Robert Worcester was the principal speaker and Mr Christopher Fenwick also spoke.

Justices' Clerks' Society Mr Laurence Cramp, President of the Justices' Clerks' Society, was last night at Gray's Inn. The principal guests were the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Chief Justice, the Master of the Rolls, the Attorney-General, the Home Secretary, Lord Justice Stuart-Smith, Mrs Justice Bracewell, and Mrs

Service dinner

lans of Court & City Yeomanny The Earl of Limerick, Honorary Colonel of the Inns of Court & City Yeomanry, was the principal speaker at a dinner for serving and retired officers held last night at Lincoln's Inn to mark the retirement of Lieutenant-Colonel Rodney Parker as director of music.

Memorial service

Mr Mohamed Again A service of celebration for the life of Mr Mohamed Amin, the cameraman whose dramatic pictures of the Ethiopian famine in 1984 focused world attention on famine and helped to save many lives, was held yesterday at St Bride's Church, Fleet Street. Canon John Oates officiated. Mr Salim Amin, son. Mr Mark

Wood, Editor-in-Chief, Reuters, and Mr Michael Buerk gave

School news

Bradfield College

The Lent term ends on Saturday March 22. The thirty third Bradfield Greek Play will be the Oedipus Tyrannus of Sophocles, directed by Hailz-Emily Osborne. Performances in the Greek The renormances in the Greek Inte-arre will be from Friday, June 27 to Thursday, July 3, and at Thassos between July 14 and 28. Full details are available from the Play Secretary at Bradfield College, Reading, RG7 6AU (0119 9744208).

Eton College Eton College closed yesterday.

and the Newcastle Medalist is K.V. Gowan KS.

The Rosebery Exhibition has been awarded to A.D.I. C.-W. Zecha KS, the Huxley Prize to R.B.R. Harrison KS. the Keynes Prize to T.H. Gallico OS, the Newcastle Classical Prizes to J.P. Wootton OS. H.C.J. Power and B.M. Fowler and Her Malesty The Queen's Prize for French to C.J.R. Asprey and for German to S.A. Sorrell KS.

In the final of the House Football Dr T.C. Basey's defeated Mr P.R. Thackersy's by I1 points to 3, Mr C.W. Milne's won the Athletics Cup.

Lecture

The Royal Academy

of Engineering Sir David Davies, CBE, FEng. FRS. President of The Royal Acad emy of Engineering, presided at the 1997 Lloyd's Register Lecture held last night at 1, Hamilton Place, London. The guest speaker was Sir Robert Horton, Chairman of Railtrack plc, who spoke on 'Re-engineering Britain's Railways -Risks and Rewards'.

Meeting

European-Atlantic Group Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, MP, was in the chair at a meeting of the European-Atlantic Group held last night at the House of Commons. Commissioner Marcello Oreiz, Spanish Commissioner at the European Commission, was the speaker, Later, Lord Dahrendorf, chairman of the group, presided at a dinner held at the St Ermin's Hotel, SWI.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Ovid, poet, Sulmona, Italy, 43 BC; Henrik ibsen, dramatist, Skien, Norway, 1828; Beniamino Gigli, tenor, Recamati, Italy, 1890; Sir Michael Redgrave, actor, Bristol, 1908.

DEATHS: King Henry IV, reigned Newton, physicist, London, 1727; Frederick Louis. London, 1751: Lajos Kossuth. Hungarian nationalist, Turin, 1894; George Nathaniel Curzon, lat Marquess Curzon of Kedleston Vicercy of India 1898-1905. London, 1925; Ferdinand Foch. Marshal of France, Paris, 1929; Brendan Behan, writer, Dublin, The Netherlands government formed the Dutch East India

Company, 1602. The foundation stone of Dartmoor Prison was laid, Devon, 1806. Burlington Arcade opened in London, 1819. Harriet Beecher Stowe's anti-slav-

ery novel Uncle Tom's Cabin was

Forthcoming marriages

Captain P.S. Cameron, RM, and Miss A.J. Nash

The engagement is announced between Peter, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Nigel Cameron, of Soli-hull, West Midlands, and Annabel, daughter of Mr Antony Nash, MBE, of East Butterleigh. Devon, and Mrs Martin Jacoby, of

Mr J.H. Day and Miss E.F. Saunders The engagement is announced between James, elder son of Mr and Mrs Douglas Day, of London. and Elizabeth, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Colin Saunders, of Caldicot, Monmouthshire.

M T.A. Decroix and Miss S.M.Q. Gill The engagement is announced between Thierry, third son of M and Mme Guy Decroix, of Versailles, Paris. and Suzannah. eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Malcolm Gill, of Aldingbourne,

Mr M.J. Lowrey and Miss S.L. Duggan
The engagement is announced between Mark, only son of Peter and Joan Lowrey, of London and Devon, and Siobhan, only daugh-ter of Captain and Mrs Terence Duggan, of Highmoor, Oxon, and formerly of Hong Kong. Mr S.A. Metcalfe

and Miss D. Spicer The engagement is announced between Scott, elder son of Mr and Mrs B. Meicalfe, of Brookmans Park, and Deborah, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Spioer. of Ware. Hertfordshire

Mr S.C.C. Pryor and Miss K.M. Childs The engagement is announced between Simon, elder son of Mr and Mrs Terry Pryce, of cmans Park, Hertfordshire, and Katharine, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Alister Childs, of

and Miss L.J. Clayton The engagement is announced between Jean-Luc, son of Mrs Zoe Deiches, of Fulham, London, and Mr Lucien Deiches, of Monte Carlo, and Louisa, daughter of Mrs Diana Corbett, of Chiswick, London, and the late Mr Roderick

Clayton. Mr J.D. Stichbury

and Miss R.G. McIntosh The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Mr and Mrs Richard Stichbury, of Edinburgh, and Rowena, daughter of Mr and Mrs Colin McIntosh, of Paris, France

Mr R.W. Turner and Miss V.M. Shrive The engagement is announced between Roger, son of the late Mr Eric Turner and of Mrs John Cowan, of London and Cape Town, and Victoria, elder daughter of Mr John Shrive and the late. Mrs Shrive, of Norfolk.

Mr J.M. Yeomans and Miss G.S. Keen The engagement is announced between Julian, second son of Mr and Mrs Peter Yeomans, of Burley, Hampshire, and Gaynor, only daughter of Mr and Mrs-Bernard Keen, of Harpenden,

Marriage

Mr C.D.M. Loane

and Miss S.C. Mahon The marriage took place at Barrer-sea Parish Church on Saturday; March 8, 1997, between Charles March 8, 1997. between Charles David Montgomery Loane, son of Mr and Mrs Warren Loane, of Crocknacrieve, Enniskillen, Co-Fermanagh, and Sarah Caroline Mahon, daughter of the late Sir George Mahon, Bt. of Castlegar, Co Galway, and of Suzanne, Lady Mahon, now of Winchester, Hammehire

High Sheriffs David Barry Owen, Teigh, Oakham; Shropshire - Lady Forester, Broscley; Somerset - Richard Stanton Roy Sheldon, Pilton, Shepton Mallet; South Yorkshire - Michael John Mallett, Sheffield: Staffordshire -Gerald Raymond Tams, Stafford; Suffolk - Jonathan Martin Paul, Freston Institute Surger, Inspec

The Queen in Council has appointed the following to be High Sheriffs in 1997:

England (except Cornwall, Greater Manchester, Merseyside and

Bedfordshire - Charles Terence Lousads, Husborne Crawley, Bedford: Berkshire - Major John Roy Trustram Eve, Waltham St Lawrence, Twyford: Buckinghamshire - Denia James Burrell, Denham: Cambridgeshire - David Temple Ramply, Great Paxxon, Huntingdon; Cheshire - Edward Simon Tudor-Evans, Congleton; City of Bristol - Richard Appleby Lalonde, Clifton, Bristol; Cumbria - John Henry Pryer-Spedding, Keswick; Derbyshire - Richard Herbert Arthur Perkins, Burton-on-Trem; Devon - Noel Frederic Augustus Page-Turner, Bedfordshire - Charles Terence Frederic Augustus Page-Turner, Woodhayes, Honiton; Dorset - Richard Walter Fielding, Longburton, nr Sherborne: Durham - Michael Philip

Weston, Durham City: East Riding of Yorkshire - Peter William John Carver, North Cave: East Sossex -John Whitmore, Hartfield; Essex -Robert Felix Erith, Lamarsh, Bures, Gloucestershire - William Gregory Francis Meath-Baker, Hasheld Greater London - William Robert Harrison, London SW3; Hampshire -Mrs Lindsay Garrest Ros, Cheriton, nr Alresford; Hereford and Worces-ter - Michael Ellot Howard, Sankyns Green, Little Willey; Hertfordhsire -Richard Walduck, Hatfield; Isle of Wight - Richard Linthorn Bradbeer, Cowes; Kent - Edwin Roy Pratt Boorman, Wateringbury; Leicester-shire - David Chetwode Samworth. Thorpe Sauchville. Melton Mowbray: Lincolnshire - Lady Bruce-Gardyne, Aswardby, Spiisby, Norfolk - Lady Evans-Lombe, Marlingford Hall, Norwich; Northamptonshire-Arthur Robert Heygate, Bugbrooke; Robert Heygate. Bugbrooke: Northumberland - Alemnder Gor-don Parrott Ramsey, Corbridge; North Yorkshire - Anthony Guy Swaine Chiscathale-Marsh, Mickley, Ripon: Nottinghamshire - Hugh Pat-rick Matheson, Newark; Oxfordshire - Lady French, Ipsden; Rutland -

Suffolk - Jonathan Martin Paul. Freston, Ipswich: Surrey - James Douglas Moir Robertson, Sunbury-on-Thames; Tyne and Wear - Mrs Sylvia Margaret Murray, Whitley Bay: Warwickshire - The Hon Lady Butler, Lighthorne, Warwick; West Midlands - Edward Michael Worley, Edgbaston, Birmingham; West Sussex - Colonel Sir Brian Walter De Stopham Bartielot, Stopham Park. Stopham Barttelot, Stopham Park, Pulborough; West Yorkshire - Fred-erick Thomas Benson Jowitt, Littlethorpe, Ripon; Wiltshire - John Barnard Bush, Heywood, Westbury. Wales Chwyd - Colonel Sir Charles Douglas Lowther, Wrexham; Dyfed - Com-mander Huw Ceirlog Lloyd-Wil-liams, Llanbedr P.S., Ceredigion; iams, Llanbedr P.S., Ceredigion:
Gwest - Andrew Munray Kerr,
Llanfair Kilgeddin, Abergavenny:
Gwynedd - Mrs Ella Wynne Jones,
Llandecwyn, Talsarnau; Mid
Glamorgan - Raymond William
Martin, Llangewydd, nr Bridgend:
Powys - The Hon Mrs Rosalind
Helen Penrose Price, Llanbedr,
Crickhowell: South Glamorgan John Wilson Phillips, Ystradowen, nr

John Wilson Phillips, Ystradowen, nr Cowbridge; West Glamorgan - Paul Jeremy Hodges, Southgate, Swansea. Duchy of Lancaster The Queen pricked the names of the

The Queen pricked the names of the following High Sheriffs on the Lites for the coming year:
Lancashire - Str David Trippler, Rossendale; Greater Manchester - Warren James Smith, Fallowfield, Manchester; Merseyside - Brian Thartie, Melliagton Chester. Thaxter, Mollington, Chester.

Legal appointment Mr Peter Robjant to be a full-time Chairman of Industrial Tribunals,

BMDS: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

When God commands, his will is done, and no one can thwart his saving power. The deeds of all mankind lie plain before him and there is no hiding from his eyes. Ecclesiasticus 39: 18,19 BURTHS TAIUS BORDOGNA VALMERIA - On 17th March 1997, to Bann William and Baroness Miranda (née Dunne), a daughter, Isabella Mary Alica.

BIRTHS ATRIPED NOALZIEL - Cn 121

at The Portland Hospital, to Sarah and Jamie, a son,

Emily.

CLARKE - On March 14th in Singapore, to Audrie (née Heistrip) and Simon, a son Peter Montgumery Garrett, a Intother for Auchie. CLAYHILLS-HENDERSON Christopher and Pamela (née Stewart) are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter, Heiena Elisabeth on March 17th 1997, a sister

de SMITH - On Monday Mar-17th, to Nicola (née Patte and Richard, a son, Cones HEATH - On Fe

Jeroszy. HBLSTRIP - Soe Clarks. MACHITOSH - On March 5th, to Elona (née Freeman) and Patrick, a beautiful two-hour Clivia jack MOLYNEUX-CHILD - OR PICKERING - On March 14th at The Portland Hospital, to Helen (née Stewart-Jones) and Gareth, a son, Oliver William John, a brother for Harry.

PRAIT - On 11th March at

Princess Alexandra Hospital, Harlow, to Samantha and Harlow, to Samantha and Staren, a son, Thomas. READ CUTTING - To Harriet and Ed, a second son born 18th March in Brussels. RICHARDEON - On March 17th 1997, to Nikki (nee Brennett) and Brian, a son, James Angus, a brother for Ben.

TER KLIKE - On 14th March, to Boudawyn and Tracy (nise Benatar), a beautiful daughter, Sophie Elizabeth, a sister for Victoria.

Hempsted Lane, Gloucester, at 10.45; and will open the media building at the Chelumium and Gloucester Coff-ege of Higher Education, The Park Campus, Cheltenham, at 11.35. The Duchess of Kent, as President will entend a performance of Werther at the Royal College of Music, Manchester, at 7.00.

(March 6) of General Valentin

Materi Summer Pestral

Receptions

To General Valentina Lady Lothian received the guests at a ception held yesterday at the Re Tereshkova, the first woman in Space Mr Brian Gamble, Director of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, was the

Mrs Eva Nowomey, the Austrian Ambassador, was the guest of honour at a reception held last night at the College of Arms of the 21st Mozart Summer Festival in Stately Homes and Country Houses after the open-ing concert. The guests were received by Garter King of Arms and the festival director.

Professor Sir William Asscher, for-mer Principal. St George's Hospital Medical School, 66; the Very Rev William Baddeley, former Area Dean of Westminster, 83; Dr Wendy Baron, head. Government Art Collection, 60; Mr Christopher Benstead, racehorse trainer, 68; Mr Anthony Blond, publisher, 69; Mr T.G.M. Brooks, Lord-Lieutenant of Leicestershire, 88; Sir Arnold Burgen, FRS, former Sir Arnold Burgen, FRS, former Master, Darwin College, Cambridge, 75; Sir Stuart Burgess, chairman, Anglia and Oxford Regional Health Angua and Ottord Regional Health Authority, 68; the Right Rev M.J. Conti, Bishop of Aberdeen, 63; Mr Charles Elly, former president, Law Society, 55; Mr Douglas French, MP, 53; Dr Ian J. Graham-Bryce, Prin-cipal and Vice-Chancellor, Dundee University, 60; Mr William Hurt, ector, 47

Mr Spike Lee, actor, film director and producer. 40: Dame Vera Lynn, singer, 80: Mr A-M. M'Bow, former director-general. Unesco. 76; Str David Montgomery, Lord-Lieuten-ant of Perth and Kinross, 56; Mr Brian Mulroney, former Canadian Prime Minister. 38; the Hon Philip Prime Minister, 58; the Hon Philip Oppenhelm, MP, 41; Dr John Rae, former Head Master, Westminster School, 66; Mr Svianoslav Richter, pianist, 82: Lord Justice Saville, 61; the Earl of Sealield, 58; Mr Greg Searle, rower, 25; Mr Adrian Snow, former Headmaster, The Oratory School St. Siz. Market Solvenon. School, 58; Sir Harry Solomon. former chairman, Hillsdown Holdings, 60; Mr Tim Yeo, MP, 52.

The Lord-Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire, Sir Nigel Mobbs, was the host at a dinner held last night at Hampden House, Great Hampden, for the Bucking-hamshire Lieutenants to dine out Mr John Paterson as Vice Lord-Lieutenant and to welcome Sir Henry Aubrey-Fletcher as the new

gel delivered the Frederic Hewitt

Justice Arden.

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DEATHS

MALTON - On March 13th 1997, to Emma (née Chetwynd Stapylton) and Matthew, a daughter, Poppy Olivia. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BRADMAN - Sue and Jo wish to thank all friends and relatives for their worsierful support and expressions of sympathy at this sad time. They would also like to express their gratitude to all the nurses and doctors who cared for Tony over the last 18 months, particularly those on Ward 16, Ninewells and Ward 5, DRI.

DEATES

ARBUTHNOT - Irene Joan
Grace on 17th March 1997.
Peacefully at the Sacred
Heart Nursing Home,
Youghal, Co. Cork in her
92nd year. Daughter of the
late Major and Mrs J.B.
Arbuthnot of Mystle Grove.
Much loved aunt and greataunt. Removal from
Murphy's Funeral Home, to
Saint Mary's Collegiate
Church on Friday 21st
March at 7 ym Funeral 3 ym
Saturday 22nd March
BEMEON - On March 15th Saturday 22nd March

BERSON - On March 15th
1997 suddenly but
peacefully in his sleep,
David, Major RA (retired).

Beloved husband of
Gabrielle and much loved
father of Tomy and Hester.
Funeral Service at St
Andrew's Church, Hope
Bowdler, on March 27th at
1.30 pm followed by private
cremation. Family flowers
only please, but donations if
desired to Hope Bowdler
Parish Church. Enquiries to:
(01743) 344646.

BUSS - Vivinn died poacefully

6085 - Vivian died peacefully on 17th March 1997 aged 86. Much loved father of David, Mary and Stephen. Also dearly loved by his 9 panulchikiran and 3 greatmanicalidren and 3 great-graudehildren. Funeral Service at West Herts Crematorium, Garston, on Tuesday 25th March at 12.15 pm. Any enquiries to Field & Hemiey, (0181) 950-7221.

CARPENTER - Elizabeth Noza (Betty), widow of Geofficey, peacefully on March 17th after a short Illuses, Fussani Service at the Chilterns Crematocium, Amerikam, on 26th March at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to ESECA 60 MC Grimstad

CLARGE - Peter, dearest friend, died suddenly on 14th March, aged 51. Funeral article and countries and countries are not countries. Norwood Crematorium, Landon 127. Dunations to Caucer Research Pund c/o E.L. Wickes & Son, 114 Denomes Hill, London 155. COATES - Austin Francis Harrison, author, son of Eric Coates, died peacefully in Fortugal on 18th American

De VERE - Joan, beloved mother of Carlon March, Carlon March, Christ the Prince of Peace, Weybridge, 10cm. Family flowers only denseting to the place Wednesday 26th March, Christ the Prince of Peace, Weybridge, 10cm. Family flowers only densetions to Richard Jennes Manurdai Trust of Walter G. Wenti, Addlestone.

HARBY - Ivy V. aged 98, widow of Vernon Hardy, passed peacefully at Westhampaett Number Harms, Chichester. on 15th March Mother of Elizabeth and Dick, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral at Chickester Commontum on Tuesday 25th Warch at Tuesday 25th March at 230pm. No flowers please.

HIGHGATE - Suddenly bu HIGHGATE - Suddenly but peacefully, in Uddingston on 16th March 1997, James Berwa Enight Benneler Cht. MA, L.B. Dearly loved brother of Elizabeth Thomson and dear wacle of Douglan. Formerly Senior Parmer of Brownile Watson and Bockett and Interly consultant with Miller Beckett and Jackson and Hie Long member and older of Long member and older of committal thereafter at Daldowie Crematorium, Broomhouse (East Chapel), at 12 noom All friends are

passed away suddenly on March 13th 1997 aged 80. Beautiful and intelligent, belowd wife of Dr. Maufred Jeffrey (deceased September 1995), she will be sadly missed by all who are the sadly missed by a sadly missed b lyys), she will be saily bissed by all who knew her. Deeply moumed by brother John and his family, daughter Tanya and son-hiew Enymond, son Nicholas and danglas-b-law Diame, grandchildren and great-mandchildren.

normal America Company of the Compan

Thomas Heron Marwell Ca.
DSC. Peacefully at home on
March 15th 1997, after a
long illness borne with
dignity and courage Leved
homeum of Marwe, father of
Coper, Eate, Brigid and
Robert Sedly missed by all
his family, Pumeral Service
St Julian's Church, Wellow
on Friday March 21st, at
10.30am. Family flowers
only Donations if desired to
The Dorothy House

law and grandfather.

14th died peacefully at home in London. Beloved husband of Bender and father of Tim. Private Sarvice in memory will be held Sunday March 23rd. Family and close friends only by request. An official memory Memorial Service will be announced shortly. No However plants to Esthodonouse Society c/o Academic Society c/o Academic society c/o Academic 10.30am.
only Donations if desired to the Dorothy House Foundation, Winsley, beatford-in-fron BAIS 21E

MITCHELL - Brigadier J.A.E. (Absenty, E.A., Chif. (180) died 18th March Much loved husband of Mary and beloved by his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and Thanksgiving Service, St. Mary's, Bibury, Gloucestershire, 2.30 pm Thursday 27th March.

and enquiries to Leverton & Sons, 181 Haverstock Hill, NW3 4QS, tel: (0171) 586-4221.

ATEL-Domb.Former Judge of the Supreme Court of Pakistan; Fellow, London

MARKUID - Elimbeth (Betty), wife of the late Brigadier W.B. (George) Bedford MDE, MC, peacefully at home on 17th March after a short illness. Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday 25th March at 3 pm at St Mary the Virgin, Charminster. No flowers please Donations, if desired, to Marie Curle Cancer Care, Blandford Community Hospital. Community Hospital, Blandford DT11 7DD.

Blandford DT-11 7DD.

RUDD - Jean Metcaife (née Morrison) peacefully on March 18th, aged 85. Beloved wife of the late Cecil Wallace Rudd, very dearly loved mother of Christopher and Pen and personnoitée of Alastair. The fomeral will take place at St Many's Church, Stoughton at 3 pm on Wednesday March 26th followed by private cremation. Family flowers only to Edward White, 5 South Pallatt, Chépener. Any donations to the NSPCC.

TAK - Reverend Ernest, on 10th March 1997 at Labora-Poet, administrator and much loved father, father-in-law and grandfather.

desired to Rethoblestone Society c/o Academic Department of Paediatric Oncology, St Bartholomew's Hospital, Wast Smithfield, London EC1 755. MEMORIAL SERVICES SOVOER - George A Memorial Service for George Goyder CSE (1908-1997) will be held at 3 pm on Wednesday 2nd April at St James's, Piccadilly.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

Isobel, Alan, Natasha Rebecca and Christopher

IN MEMORIAM -PRIVATE RUCKER - John Patrick Charles, June 11th 1928 -March 20th 1967. Deeply loved and always remembered by all his family.

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ERIK DE MAUNY

Erik de Mauny, broadcaster and foreign correspondent, died on March 18 aged 76. He was born on September 17.

s one of the oncelegendary corps of BBC foreign corre-spondents, Erik de Mauny not only fitted the bill but lived the part. Colourful, bohemian and slightly louche, he always had a career quite separate from the one he pursued in front of the microphone. In fact, his first book -a novel - was published in 1948 even before he joined the BBC (at first for the External Services in Bush House) and his immediate superior there was once heard to remark that he always thought of de Mauny more as an author than as a journalist. Although born in London,

the son of a violinist and a pianist (his paternal grandfather was Norman French hence his name). Erik de Mauny was brought up in New Zealand, where his father had gone for the sake of his health after being gassed in the First World War. (He subsequently became founder and first conductor of what is now the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra.)

The young de Mauny was educated at Wellington College and at Victoria University College, Wellington. He then served his journalistic apprenticeship on the Dominion and New Zealand Listener before enlisting as a volunteer with the New Zealand Second Expeditionary Force. He spent the war in the Pacific, the Middle East and Italy, ending up (as he was always proud to boast) with the rank of substantive corporal. But his war service was, in fact, more

Max Sterne, research

veterinarian, died on

February 26 aged 91. He

was born on June 1, 1905.

IN THE 1880s Louis Pasteur

explored the possibility of

vaccinating animals against

anthrax. He reduced the viru-

lence of anthrax bacilli by

heating so that they would no.

would make it immune to

infection by the wild-type viru-

lent strain. However, the vac-

consistently on a commercial

basis. It was not until Max

Sterne returned to the study of

the problem in the 1930s that a

safe, reproduceable and effect-

Sterne showed that one

particular avirulent non-cap-

sulated strain, the so-called

Steme strain," could immun-

ise small animals, including

guinea pigs, against virulent challenge. This was subse-

quently confirmed in large

ive vaccine was pioneered.

cine was difficult to reproduce

kill an animal but



Erik de Mauny with the Prince of Wales in 1975

valuable than his rank might suggest, as he had, among other things, run the French Section of the Radio Monitoring Service at GHQ Cairo.

After the war he came to London to study Russian (which, like French, he learnt to speak fluently) at London University. He freelanced during this period for various publications, and was very much part of the "Fitzrovia" culture which grew up in and around Broadcasting House in Portland Place. His novel -The Huntsman in his Career (1948) - was about the lives of three New Zealanders, one of

day. Only recently it was used

to protect animals in the

Kruger Park from anthrax,

using helicopters to "dart" the

animals with special rifles; a

similar vaccine is used for

human immunisation in Rus-

Max Sterne was born in

Trieste of Austrian parents,

and went with them to South

Africa at the age of four. He

became an accomplished

sportsman, excelling in box-

ing, swimming and running.

He was South African Univer-

sities Welterweight Champi-

on, South African 100 yards

Freestyle Champion, and

South African 100 yards Ath-

Sterne studied veterinary

science at the then Transvaal

University College (Pretoria

University) and after two

years on a cattle ranch in the

Belgian Congo he secured a

post at the Government

Centre near Pietermaritzburg.

mainly testing field samples.

In 1935 he obtained a post at

sia and China.

letic Champion.

whom is shot by the other who, in turn, is then pursued by the third as a fugitive from justice. Written while he was still a student, it achieved a respectful review in The Times Literary Supplement, to which de Mauny was later to become a frequent, though (in those days) necessarily anonymous. contributor.

He joined the BBC as an External Services sub-editor in 1949, characteristically (with one book behind him) giving his occupation as "author" on his application form. At that time progress up the ladder within the BBC was notorious-

MAX STERNE

ly slow and it was not until 1955 that he became a foreign duty editor in the Foreign News Department. His first real break came three years later, when he was appointed the BBC's Balkans Correspondent working out of Vienna. Two years after that, he was moved to Beirut as Middie East Correspondent before in 1962 being sent to the plum posting of Washington as the number two figure in the BBC bureau there.

Until that point, his had been a creditable, if scarcely sparkling, BBC career. All that changed, however, when in

shown to be safe and effective

in prolonged use would have

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challenge, too?

1963 he was appointed the BBC's first Moscow corres-pondent to its credit, the BBC had previously refused to appoint a resident correspondent in protest against the jamming its airwaves by the Soviet Union - a practice under Khrushchev that had just stopped),

Moscow was the capital, with his knowledge of Russian, in which de Mauny had always wanted to serve, and he certainly arrived at a propi-tious moment. One of his first ssignments was to cover the trial of the alleged British spy Greville Wynn, and he also had a seat in the stalls for the fall of Khrushchev on October 15, 1964, the same date as the British general election of that year (though, fortunately for the Labour Party, too late to affect its result). While he was in Beirut, de

Mauny had got to know "Kim" Philby, unmasked as "the third man" just before he arrived in Moscow for the BBC. By dint of considerable pertinacity he eventually obtained a meeting with him, matching him, according to his own subsequent account, "drink for drink". The result, as he used wryly to recall, was that the next morning he could remember absolutely nothing of what Philby had said. It is only fair to add that an equally plausible explanation for what did, or did not, make it into a BBC news script was de Mauny's own scrupulous sense of integrity: he would not have regarded it as right to transform what had been intended as social reunion into a professional scoop.

While in Moscow, de Mauny began to write what

Western correspondent, even includes the diagnosis of a hitherto unheard of clinical condition, Moscow Blues the term he invented to describe those days when all the frustrations and obstacles prove too much and the only possible course seems to be to pull the beddlothes over one's head for the next 24 hours, heedless of calls from London

or anything else. (There was sometimes more than a touch of Malcolm Muggeridge about de Mauny and this book certainly echoed the former's Winter in Moscow, published 35 years earlier.)

In 1966, after three exacting years, de Mauny was moved from Moscow to the softer political climate of Paris, vhere he remained as the BBC's correspondent until 1972. At his own request he then returned to Moscow for a further two-year spell between 1972 and 1974, though this time, given the expansion of the bureau, purely as the radio correspondent. He was always a wireless man through and through and his excursions into television were rare and not very much enjoyed. The programme with which he was most associated in his later years was Radio 4's The World Tonight, which he both contributed to and presented. Erik de Mauny retired from

the BBC in 1980, and initially went to live with his wife and children in France, from where he wrote a number of book reviews, particularly for the Financial Times. He and his family returned to this country some ten years ago, living first in Yorkshire and then in Lancaster. He is survived by his second wife Elizabeth - he was first married to an Egyptian Denyse Aghion — and by their son and daughter.

and Professor of Fine Art at Newcastle University, 1959-80, died on February 21 aged 81. He was born on March 14, 1915.

a carefully restricted geometric vocabulary; shrewd and vivid studies of the British characterised by vitality, intion, and by the genial disposition of the artist.

Randolph Schwabe. His first solo show was not until 1946, at the Leicester Galleries, London, when he was 31: three years later he exhibited there again. He showed his early works, evocative landscapes and pared-down still-lifes, which led to many commissions in the late 1940s and 1950s. These included book jackets for the Pilot Press, murals for the 1951 Festival of Britain and for P&O, and coloured glass screens produced in collabor-ation with Erno Goldfinger for the Ministry of Health buildings at Elephant and

Because of his Quaker beliefs Rowntree had been granted exemption from military service in the Second World War, but he worked aloneside other war artists on such projects as decorating the many canteens which were hastily erected to feed workers and others, during the Blitz and afterwards.

ries of the hardships of war. Rowntree painted outdoors

directly from the landscape, as well as in the studio, intuitively documenting his thoughts and perceptions of his surroundings. John Piper once described him as always having "an eye for things in the countryside ... that needed noticing, and had, to date been little noticed".

The year 1949 marked the beginning of his ten-year period of teaching at the Royal College of Art. Among his pupils at that time was John Bratby. He was also a visiting lecturer at the Ruskin School of Drawing on several possions.

He was awarded a Ford Foundation Grant for 1958-59, which enabled him to visit America for the first time and based on the striking scenery of Nantucket, New England, and the arid plains of New Mexico. On his return he took over from Lawrence Gowing as Professor of Fine Art at the University of Newcastle, a position he was to hold for more than 20 years.

In his early years at Newcastle he first experimented with abstraction. At this time Victor Pasmore was also working at the university; his abstract canvases must have been of significance to Rowntree, although for Rowntree the distinction between figurative and abstract art was by no means as clear as it was for Pasmore. Rowntree continued to work on landscapes, and his use of still-life subjects for his collages allowed him to experiment with the representation of the subject matter, presenting common and accessible objects in an innovative and ever-changing way.

Rowntree continued to live and work in the Tyne valley. His retirement was marked by an exhibition at the university's Hatton Gallery, and his commitment to the area through the 1960s and 1970s was commemorated by a retrospective of more than 90 paintings as part of the Hexham Abbey Festival in 1988. Another large exhibition took place in Saffron Walden in 1995, and Rowntree's work is in important public and private collections in Britain and abroad.

Diana and by a son and a

animals, and the strain has difficulty in being licensed the Veterinary Research Sta-The vaccine which Sterne been used as an avirulent live today as the loss of virulence tion at Onderstepoort where developed and which has been spore vaccine up to the present

PERSONAL COLUMN

he carried out his classic work

on the anthrax bacillus.

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> REACH National Sponsors. Record Column BTA Sear Whar (DI), 27 8556262, stary work for retired ousiness & professional geod.

Refuse to MONUMENTS OF BRITAIN The Commissioners of Works publish to-day for the first time a complete list of Retire

the fannuments to which State protection has been granted under the Ancient Monuments Consolidation and Amendment Act (1913). The book contains the names of more

than 2,500 monuments, ranging from pre-historic camps, stone circles, and barrows to the remains of abbeys, castles, bridges, and even relatively modern buildings of special interest. The primary object of the lists is to register the fact that the preservation of You won't be paid a salary, but you will get expenses these monuments is of national imporand the chance to help society and yourself tance, and to enlist the interest of the

> unsuitable treatment or of exploration by unqualified persons. The great majority of the monuments lately scheduled are of the prehistoric kind. They include 61 stone circles or standing stones, % prehistoric tumuli, and 77 camps and earthworks. The most

owners and of others in their protection.

Further provisions of the Act are

designed to minimise the danger of

ON THIS DAY March 20, 1929

When the first complete list of monuments which had been given state protection was published in 1929, the most important addition to the list was said to be the Roman Wall from Newcastle upon Tyne to Carlisle.

important addition is that of the Roman wall from Newcastle-upon-Tyne to Carlisle. Protection for what remains of this famous wall has long been contemplated, but difficulty was experienced in tracing and sending out notices to nearly 400 separate owners. The work has now been completed, and not only is the wall itself scheduled, but also the stone-built camps, of which there are a certain number, the mile castles which occur, roughly, at a distance of every Roman mile, the turrets and subsidiary

works, and the earthwork or vallum, running at varying distances to the south of the stone wall, which appears to represent the original boundary line. It is generally assumed that Hadrian's Wall was primarily a frontier boundary and only in a secondary sense a

defensive work. Two other earth-works of a somewhat similar character havea recently been scheduled. One of these is Offa's Dyke, considered to have been thrown up by King Offia of Mercia at the end of the eighth century to form a boundary between his dominions and the Welsh tribes. The other is Grymes Dyke, in Herefordshire, which appears to be a tribal boundary of late prehistoric date - probably the first century B.C. - and to represent a stage in the pre-Roman settlement of England by an immigrant

Scheduled buildings of medieval date are fewer in the additions to the list for the reason that all the most important monuments of this class have long been

was probably his best known book, Russian Prospect (1969). A candid account of what Moscow can be like for a

capable of protecting sheep arises from a single point and against seven major diseases simultaneously. This vaccine not multipoint mutation — a factor which would have given rise to serious concerns on was so remarkable that for reversion to virulence and over a decade it remained the market leader and similar safety. Unfortunately, also, his work did not gain the instant recognition it deserved, partly vaccines subsequently introduced by competitors were because it was first reported in merely copies. In the mid-1960s, Sterne the Ondersternoort Journal. was appointed head of the which at that time was a

relatively obscure publication. In 1946 Sterne came to England, after he was awarded a scholarship, to obtain his diploma in bacteriology. This was a visit which had previously been delayed by the outbreak of war in 1939. He returned to Onderstepoort in 1948 but in 1951 returned to England with his wife since they disapproved of the Nationalist Government's policies in South Africa. They settled in west London, and he joined the Veterinary Department of the Weilcome Research Laboratories at Beckenham, Kent, headed by Or Montgomerie, the company's Chief Veterinarian.

ed his horizons to those of bacterial culture, with a view haggerial antigens for vaccine components. He carried out work both on classical fermentation and the technique of growing organisms in cellophane sacs immersed in the growth medium. Using the latter method which allowed nutrients to diffuse into the sac, and waste products out, he was able to achieve very high yields of Cl.botulinum toxins types C and D with a

high degree of purity. In 1959 he transferred to the department of anaerobic bacteriology which was concerned with research, development and production vaccines against clostridial diseases. As a result of his work, particularly develop-ments in fermentation, Wellcome were able to introduce in 1961 the first multicomponent clostridial vaccine. Covexin 7.

In addition to pursuing his previous interests in anthrax and botulism. Sterne expandmedicine. to large-scale production of

vaccines such as those against whooping cough and typhoid. When he finally retired, he could look back over a long period of technological advancement and commercial success. He undertook a number of consultancies for the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations and for the World Health Organisation. In 1985, at the age of 80, he travelled to Texas to receive the Karl F. Meyer

denartment of aerobic bacteri

ology where his interests were

expanded into the area of

medical vaccines. His wise

counsel was instrumental in

the improvement of Wellcome

Gold Cane of the American Veterinary Epidemiological Society for services to animal Yet, despite his prowess as a scientist. Sterne sought little acknowledgement for himself.

Part of his endearing nature was his slight absent-mindedness and, on occasions, lack of practicality. His original work on anthrax would in today's climate have almost certainly led to his election as a Fellow of the Royal Society. It would, indeed, have been a fitting recognition of a long and Illustrious career. But fortunately his name is preserved in history as long as the "Sterne strain" is used for anthrax vaccination.

In retirement Sterne was totally immersed in his family and in his passion for sailing and swimming. In 1932 he had married Tikvah Alper, a distinguished scientist in the field of radiobiology but later concerned with the transmissible agent in scrapie and mad cow disease. She died in 1995. He is survived by two sons.



KENNETH

ROWNTREE

THE work of Kenneth Rowntree encompassed a wide variety of subjects, styles and media. There were domestic interiors and kitchenbased still-lifes; works which focused on the garden as a site of innocence and stiliness; large-scale public murals; collages; abstract paintings with

landscape. All were direct yet richly complex. All were vention and sharp observa-

Kenneth KOWNITEE born in Scarborough. Brought up as a Quaker, he moved south to Oxford to attend the Ruskin School of Drawing, where he was taught by Albert Rutherson. He later studied at the Slade School of Art in London under

Castle, London.

In response to a commission from the Pilgrim Trust, he became involved in the scheme called Recording Britain, for which artists were sent to various sites around the country to document the effects of the war. Rowntree's sympathetic watercolours of Wales, and his presence in the Portmadoc area are still remembered with fondness, his cheerful personality overrid-

After retiring from his Newcastle chair in 1980,

He is survived by his wife

NEWS

Blair attack over sleaze report

■ Tony Blair last night led an unprecedented move to prevent Parliament from rising tomorrow for the general election in an attempt to force publication of the report on the cash-forquestions affair

He was joined by Paddy Ashdown, other minority leaders and the entire Shadow Cabinet in calling for the session to be extended amid claims that the Government had timed the prorogation to avoid publication of the report until after the election. The report will be ready next week. Even the Queen was embroiled in the dispute

Leading ladies meet for lunch

Political animosity was off the menu as Britain's leading ladies met for lunch. Norma Major and Cherie Blair united briefly to present awards for courage and bravery Page 1

Unqualified praise

The top award in British architecture has been given to a man with no professional qualifications in a move that will bring new hope to thousands of designers and technicians. SAS rescue

A British aid worker described how he was rescued by the SAS from southern Albania and flown to safety

Doctor jailed

A doctor faces being struck off the Medical Register after being jailed for three months for indecently assaulting a nurse. Manchester Crown Court heard that he often engaged in sexual ... Page 3 banter ..

Off the ralls

The new owners of Regional Railways North East have fallen foul of their local Passenger Transport Authority after cancelling 49 trains in one day Page 5

Patient heal thyself

A campaign to encourage patients to look after their own health over Easter so family doctors can have a holiday was announced by the British Medical AssociationPage 4

Blots on landscape

A campaign against disfigurement of the countryside was launched with an attack on road signs, rural architecture and mo-

ACROSS

I Squirrel shot by brother accord-

6 Backward children make a mis

9 Laugh from heartless twit in a

10 English Lord arranged a party in

11 Toxic metal, as opposed to tin.

12 Spirit of optimism of fellow

13 Firm providing possible place on

17 European city offers author un-

19 Name set in entrance may in-

22 Drive into cactus region with

Solution to Puzzle No 20,431

ahandoned by English (8).

fabulous location (2,6).

pocketing gold (6).

ending repose (9).

scant vegetation (6).

board for director (5).

14 Shined with rub, possibly (9).

dicate philanthropist (5).

ing to rumour (8).

Less sex, please

The British are much less sexually active than suggested by glossy magazines, the advertising industry and television

Threat to dynasties

Some of the most distinguished political dynasties of the last 700 years will lose their voting rights in the House of Lords under Labour and Liberal Democrat party proposals for electoral . Page II

Refugee emergency

Italy declared a state of emergency to cope with the influx of more than 10,000 refugees from

Jerusalem threat

Egypt and Syria warned Israel that it was pushing the Middle East into a new confrontation as the Supreme Court rejected two petitions to halt construction of a settlement for 32,000 Jews in east Jerusalem Page 17

Warriors' windfall

An oil and gas find in the southern highlands of Papua New Guinea is poised to hurl the Huli Wig Men tribe of warriors into fabulous wealth Page 18

Hong Kong feud

No present-day resentment endures more bitterly than Sir Percy Cradock's toward Chris Patten, the Hong Kong Governor, says bile phone masts......Page 8 Jonathan Mirsky...........Page 19

Princess lookalike abdicates

A woman who has made a career out of being a Diana, Princess of Wales, lookalike is to retire after ten years because of the strain. Christina Hance, 36, who has earned up to £5,000 a day, says she can no longer cope and has found herself suffering similar problems to her alter ego. "Being Diana sent

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,432



Flag day: Russian and American flags on sale in Helsinki for today's summit between Presidents Yeltsin and Clinton Page 14

Jobiess down: Unemployment fell 68,200 to 1.74 million in February, or 6.2 per cent of the workforce. Average earnings increased by five ...Page 29

BUSINESS

Higher sales: High street sales were stronger than expected in February, reviving speculation that an incoming Chancellor will be forced to raise rates... ..Page 29

Telephone bid: Talk of a Cable & Wireless bid for Sprint, America's third largest telephone group, delayed the opening of the US company's shares in New York...Page 29

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index fell 24.6 points to 4332.2. The pound rose 1.08 cents to \$1.5968 and 2.07 pfennigs to DM2.6850, lifting the sterling index to 96.3 from

Football: The second leg of the Cup Winners' Cup quarter-final against SK Brann of Bergen and the next six weeks of the domestic season will show what Roy Evans's Liverpool are made of ...

SPORT

Golf: European tournament professionals are to be balloted over the composition of the team which will face the United States in the ... Page 50 Ryder Cup...

Cricket: The entire Sussex committee resigned an hour into the annual meeting at the Grand Hotel. ...Page 56

Racing: Only 54 horses were left in the Grand National at the second forfeit stage, raising fears that the race will again fall short of a 40runner maximum field Page 53

be scattered showers. The clearer weather should reach all but the South

Scotland and Northern Ireland will

start cloudy with outbreaks of rain. In the far North there will be showers

which will turn wintry. This clearer, showery weather will gradually spread

☐ London, SE England, Central S England, E Midlands, W Midlands, Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales: dry at first, becoming cloudy

with rain later. Wind northwesterly

☐ E Anglia, E England, NE England: a lew showers, dying out, with

further rain for a time later. Wind

light to moderate Max 11C (52F).

Tribute to Wilde: Simon Callow

reveals his versatility as an actor in his fine West End revival of Micheal MacLiammóir's tribute to Oscar Wilde, The Importance of Being Oscar

ARTS

The force lives: George Lucas's 1977 science fiction classic Star Wars returns to the big screen in a new edition topped up with even more special effects...... Page 44 New on video: Nature goes on the

rampage in the Hollywood special effects blockbuster Twister, while the 1950 John Huston crime classic The Asphalt Jungle is also

Disappointing evening: Hans Werner Henze's 1960s opera Elegv for Young Lovers fails to impress in Birmingham...

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

Valerie Grove meets Professor Roy Foster, the

EDUCATION David Blunkett on Labour's plans

FOCUS Vend spend: More than El billion is put into Britain's vending ma-INTERVIEW chines. A special report on this

author of a new biography of W.B. Yeats

for the Department for Education

TVLISTINGS

Preview: Adam Dalgliesh investigates a publishing house death. P. D. James's Original Sin (IIV, 9pm). Review: Lynne Truss on scientists with metaphors Page 47

OPINION

Open House

If both Parliament and party are to preserve their reputation then openness with Sir Gordon Downey's "sleaze" report is the only Page 24

Cold peace in Helsinki

For both Presidents Clinton and Yeitsin, the stakes are higher than they have been for years. Both have been recently re-elected, and need to give firm personal direction to their new administrations Page 24

The first Europeans

A Berber ancestry would indeed be a novel concept for Maecenas, Horace's patron and campaign co-ordinator for Augustus, who was "descended from Etruscan ... kings"...

COLUMNS

FEATURES

.... Pages 20, 21

Week of chic: lain R. Webb enjoys

the moments of greatness during

Paris Fashion Week as Alexander

McQueen shocks at Givenchy and

Valentino adds a tough edge to

Cancer hope: Dr Thomas

Stuttaford on the Chinese tree of

happiness that has revolutionised

the life of an English cancer

Bitter legacy: The head of muse-

ums and galleries in Glasgow is

seeking a private Act of Parliament

to revoke the terms of Sir William

Burrell's will, threatening the

chances of further bequests from

BOOKS

Avenger's tale: Nicholas Wapshott

on the memoirs of Lord McAlpine

of West Green Pages 46, 47

THE PAPERS

Faced with the United States, cul-

tural resistance must go hand in

hand with the economic offensive.

In Latin America, so far from God

and so close to Washington, as the

proverb says, Jacques Chirac must

have been heard when he de-

elamour

art collectors...

growing industry...

lish language.

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

The Labour Party had to accept. that socialism was not electable; they made Tony Blair their leader and decided, in the Clause 4 vote, to abandon the commitment to state. ownership...

MURIEL SPARK

It is exactly 70 years ago that, at the age of nine, I set forth upon my literary life. My first work, a poem, was an intended improvement on Robert Browning's The Pied Piper of Hamlin ..

PETER RIDDELL

The shambles over the "cash-forquestions" report is about much more than the future of a few Tory MPs. It is really over whether the House of Commons is any longer in fit or capable of regulating its own . Page 13:

OBIRDARIES A

Erik de Mauny, broadcaster, Kenneth Rowntree, painter; Man-Sterne, immunologist Page 27

MALETIERS

Labour repudiated on windfall tax; political influence of The Sun; Is-

raeli "intransigence"; preservation of government records Page 25

LOTTERY NUMBERS

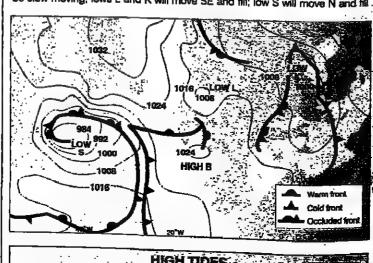
nounced the hegemony of the Eng-- Le Figaro 13, 16, 17, 29, 40, 48. Bonus: 32...

northwesterly, moderate. Max 10C ☐ N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Central N England, SW Scotland, N Ireland: rain will screed from the North West. but it will become clearer with a few showers later. Wind northwesterly, becoming westerly, light to moderate.

Sunny Cloudy Orizzio Overcast Rain Sunny. Striny showers Sleet and **Lightning** Snow Temperaturi (Celsius)

Wind speed (mph) & direction

Changes to chart below from noon: high B will move NE and intensity; low A will



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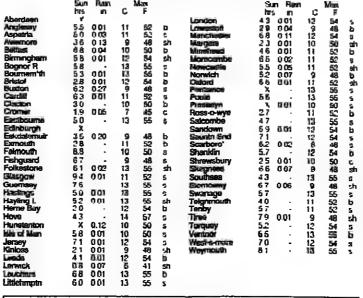
☐ Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee,

Aberdeen, Glasgow, Central High-lands, Argyfl: outbreaks of rain for a time, then mainly dry. Wind westerly, light to moderate. Max 10C (50F). ☐ Moray Firth, NE Scotland, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: show-

ers, turning increasingly wintry. Wind northwesterly, moderate to fresh Max

Outlook for Friday and Saturday: many places will be dry at first, but further rain will spread from the

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY



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SUPPORT RECYCLING

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7 Ruler's clear circular letter read out (7). 8 Quiet dog eats last food items (9).

23 Not going out. Eric is financially

24 Post I net improperly, thanks to

25 Male bore lacking vigour (6).

26 Member of sect with excess

27 Snare trapping second fish or

2 The rain ruined head covering (7).

3 Caress a queen, in embrace of

4 Transfer from familiar surround-

5 Stay calm, but remain at risk of

6 Foreign money in parcel that's

despatched for deposit (8).

ings to London Way, we hear (6).

getting hot under the collar?

ludicrous old man (9).

energy fraying at the edges (6).

embarrassed (2,3,3).

him (8).

DOWN

(4,4,5,2).

small bird (8).

- 13 What's the matter with wealth? 15 Jackson's contribution to rural
- architecture (9). 16 it's a tree that's pulped to make paper (8).
- 18 Beast delving into tins for bits to eat (7). 20 Go too far with maiden, perhaps.
- then scarper (7). 21 A policeman's following street prints (6).

Times Two Crossword, page 56

AA INFORMATION ☐ General: England and Wales should start mostly dry, but a few showers may linger in the East. Rain 0336 401 410 2176 401 744 will spread from the North West across all parts by evening, although it will be light and patchy places staying dry. The North West will become brighter but there will still

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Strength of sales may spell rate rise

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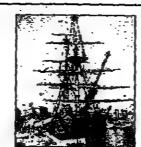
gaget to mitter that was While the season of the importance of the med their id Maritime and Meaker CiDi Chair. Pennington, fully 3: Market report Frage 32

INSIDE SECTION



Focus

Amazing what you can get from a vending machine **PAGES 37-41**



TRAVEL

See the arrival of Captain Cook's Endeavour replica **PAGES 48, 49**



SPORT

Jumping through hoops: skating's new star turns **PAGES 50-56**

TELEVISION AND **RADIO PAGES**

54, 55

THURSDAY MARCH 20 1997

Jobless rate declines to six-year low

THE Government yesterday claimed Britain's economic record is now "excellent" after new figures showed a further fall, of 68,200, in the number of people out of work and claiming benefit to its lowest level since October

UK unemployment fell to 1,746,300, seasonally adjusted, or 6.2 per cent of the workforce, last month. The jobless rate among men is 8.5 per cent, and among women 3.3 per cent. Unemployment fell in all regions.
While claimant count unem-

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ployment is now at its lowest level since October 1990, the unemployment rate to its lowest level since November of the same year. It marks the 12th consecutive fall in unemploy-

Strength of sales may spell rate rise

BY ALASDAIR MUKRAT

HIGH STREET sales were stronger than expected in February, reviving speculation that an incom ing Chancellor will be forced to raise rates by as much as half a percentage point in May.

Retail sales rose 0.5 per cent in February, according to the Office for National Statistics, against market expectations of a rise of around 0.1 per cent. Minutes of the February

monetary meeting, also published yesterday, show the Bank of England still wants a 0.25 per cent rate rise. But the Bank's stance had softened from previous meetings, at which Eddie George, the Gover-nor, had called for a rise of as much as 0.5 per cent, and Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, had resisted.

Retail sales growth was driven by a big increase in spending on household goods, with sales rising Li per cent, and by a 1.4 per cent rise in sales of clothing and footwear. But food volumes, up strongly in recent months, were flat.

Economists said the re-tail sales figures and the rise in average carnings data yesterday, pointed to the need for an immediate post-election rise in rates to

restrain spending growth. But the incoming Chancellor can take heart from figures for the value of sales in February, which suggest High Street inflation is running at around I per cent, with retail compe

tition yet fierce.
The new figures are the Bank's view that a 0.25 per cent rise will be needed immediately. Mr George said in February's meeting that he believed current monetary and consumer spending growth is unsustainable. The risk, he said, is that the 25 per cent inflation target in two year's time will be missed. However, he also said he did not believe that the economy was in danger of accelerating out of control. The Chancellor insisted that the economy was on target to meet the inflation target, while emphasising

Pennington, page 31 Market report, page 32

the importance of the sus-

tained rise in sterling and

the weaker GDP figures.

ment and takes the drop over the past year to 466,000.

John Major said: "Falling unemployment, stable prices, lower taxes, higher living standards - people's hard work has created a turbo-economy, which is making life better right across the country. Only if we stick on this course can we be sure to make life better

The fall was the third largest on record and takes the overall decline in unemployment since its peak in Decem-ber 1992 to 1,234,800. Though Whitehall statisti-

cians are rejuctant to put forward any estimate of the rate of change in unemployment because of the impact of benefit changes, government ministers claimed that the trend is now higher than it was before the changes in

benefit.
The Office for National Statistics (ONS) said that the figures were still being affected by the replacement of Unemployment Benefit by the Jobseekers' Allowance (JSA) as the principal benefit available of the statistics of the principal benefit available of the statistics able to people out of work.
But they were unable to

ouer, as incy normally do, any estimate of the trend in unemployment, insisting that the benefit changes made such estimates impossible, and suggested that they would be unlikely to do so before about

While they insisted they had not been asked by ministers to produce a new trend figure, they agreed that the rate of fall was now higher than it had been last year before the introduction of JSA.

mant that the monthly rate of fall is now between 25,000 and 30,000, instead of the ONS's last estimate of 15,000 to 20,000. Despite the ONS's statistical reservations, ministers estimated about half the recent falls in unemployment could be attributed to JSA.

Michael Heseltine, the Depthe fall, and insisted the JSA was doing the job intended for were "cheating the system" by same time as drawing unem

Labour attacked his re marks, with David Blunkett. the Shadow Employment and Education Secretary, maintaining that the impact of JSA made the monthly claimant count figures more unreliable than ever, and promising to clean up unemployment statistics should Labour be voted into power at the election.

record numbers of job vacancies. Official vacancy figures. reckoned to be about a third of THE IOD VECANCIES AVAILABLE across the whole economy, were at 270,900 in February. at their highest level since official figures began. The number of new vacan-

cies notified to Jobcentres in the month rose 40,600 to 244,700, the highest level of notifications since records were first kept The stock of vacancies held

Privately, ministers are adawith the rest due to people

uty Prime Minister, welcomed "moonlighting" in jobs at the ployment benefit.

Further ligures showed

at Jobcentres increased by 7,800 to almost a quarter of a



Ramon Pajares, managing director of Savoy Hotel, anticipates an improvement in occupancy and room rates. Story, page 30

C&W bid talk prompts Sprint spree

SUGGESTIONS that Cable and Wireless is planning a \$15 billion US takeover deal prompted speculative buying yesterday in the shares of Sprint, America's third-largest telephone company.

With buyers so heavily out-numbering sellers, trading in Sprint shares was delayed for an hour when the New York Stock Exchange opened. A report claimed that Cable and

Wireless was planning to buy the 80 per cent of Sprint not owned by France Telecom and Deutsche Telecom, which each have a 10 per cent stake. C&W was reported to have secured the support of France

Telecom for the bid. in London, there was scepticism about a possible bid. One broker said: "C&W just couldn't handle a takeover right now. It doesn't have a strong enough balance sheet to afford the massive price and with all its restructuring, its

its plate."
With a market value of nearly \$19 billion. Sprint is larger than C&W. A C&W spokesman said that the company would not comment on market speculation.

Many observers believe that a complex deal could emerge

from further discussions. C&W may want to counter the \$22 billion merger between BT and MCI, while Sprint is looking for greater interna-

☐ The French Government will begin the privatisation of France Telecom on May 6, with the sale of shares worth between Fr30 billion and FFr50 billion, Michel Bon, the chairman, said yesterday.

BUSINESS TODAY

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B&B benefit Bradford & Bingley, the

building society, has promised to double its members' benefits scheme to £100 million this year in its battle against converting

Looking east

Kingfisher, the retail conglomerate that owns Woolworths, Comet and Superdrug, plans to open two branches of its B&Q do-ityourself chain in Taiwan. Page 31, Tempus 32

Earnings growth increases to 5%

By OUR INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

GROWIH in average earnings has accelerated, suggesting that a more buoyant labour market is triggering higher pay settlements.

Average earnings increased by 5 per cent in the year to the January 31, an increase of 0.25 per cent on the December figure, which itself has been revised up by a quarter of a percentage point.

New figures from the Office

for National Statistics showed a three-quarter point rise in underlying earnings growth across the whole economy since last month's figures were published.

The figures were much higher than expected and raised fears about inflationary pressures building up in the labour market. The earnings growth figure is now a full point higher than it was three months ago, when it stood at 4

per cent. Ministers, eager yesterday

to proclaim the economic success of a further fall in unemployment, insisted that this was not a principal cause for concern, given rising

Manufacturing output per head was 1.4 per cent higher in the three months to January compared with a year earlier, and is now running at its highest level since August 1995.

As a result, unit wage costs are still easing, with manufacturing wages and salaries per unit of output now 3.1 per cent higher in the three months to January compared with a year ago - the lowest figure since

Analysts suggested that the rapidly tumbling level of un-employment in the last three months, spurred by the intro-duction of the Jobseekers' Allowance, had now got to such a pace that it was allowing earnings growth to

SFO 'held papers in Forsyth case'

THE Serious Fraud Office (SFO) has become embroiled in a fresh dispute over Elizabeth Forsyth, whose conviction was quashed by the Court of Appeal this week.
Lawyers for Mrs Forsyth. a

former aide to Polly Peck's Asil Nadir. claim that vital documents were kept from the defence throughout her trial and did not come to light until the appeal hearing in Janu-ary. The SFO says the docu-ments were available for

inspection throughout. Any suggestion that documents were suppressed would be highly damaging to the SFO, which is privately exasperated at the outcome of the appeal. Mrs Forsyth served ten months of a five-year sentence for handling £400,000 in sto-len funds, but her conviction was ruled to be unsafe. She is compensation for wrongful imprisonment.

The latest row relates to

witness statements made in 1991 by Dennis Robertson, the Stoy Hayward partner who was Polly Peck's auditor. Mr Robertson died before the Forsyth case came to court, but his testimony casts light on a key part of the defence— the so-called "secondary banking operation in northern Cyprus.

Peter Krivinskas, the lawyer who acts for both Mrs Forsyth and Mr Nadir, says he did not know the documents existed until the appeal opened in January. He said: "The ramifications are extreme. If the evidence had been read out in court, it may well have resulted in a not

guilty verdict."
The SFO would not comment yesterday. The SPO Nadir, who is expected to apply for the case against him to be dropped on grounds of

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Rexam's revamp costs 1,200 jobs By Christine Buckley, industrial correspondent



Borjesson: sell-offs

REXAM, the packaging group formerly known as Bowater. yesterday announced the loss of 1,200 jobs, including 500 in Britain, across its European and North American

operations. The restructuring of continuing operations, together with the sale of a large number of non-core businesses, gave rise to a £300 million charge, leaving Rexam with pre-tax losses £190 million in 1996. In 1995 Rexam earned pre-rax profits of £180 million. The company has written

off £254 million in goodwill

and £104 million has been lost

through disposals. Rexam's

underlying profits, stripped of exceptional costs, fell to £170 million, from £185 million. Jeremy Lancaster, chair-man, said flar sales of £2.28

billion were largely responsible for the decline in underlying profits, although margins ment. Packaging suffered last year from customer demands for cheaper products after the price of raw materials had leaps in 1945. Profits fell in food and drink packaging, industrial products and healthcare packaging, although other divisions saw some

Michael Hartnall, finance

improvement.

director, said that restructuring of the group would deliver annual cost savings of £20 million. The series of disposals, which began in January, would be completed by next

The sell-off and restructuring followed the appointment last July of Rolf Borjesson as chief executive. So far, three businesses have been sold. with a further sale half completed, and four or five sales are at advanced stages of

An 8p final dividend makes an unchanged total of 14.1p.

Tempus, page 32

Vickers joins outcry against sterling strength

INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

VICKERS, the tanks to healthcare group. yesterday joined the chorus of companies giving warning of the impact of the strong pound, with Sir Colin Chandler, chief executive, saying that fluctuations strengthened the case for European monetary union.

Sir Colin said the strength of sterling could knock £6 million to £7 million from profits this

year. He said monetary union should come only after the convergence criteria are properly met. Because of uncertainty over the level of sterling. Vickers said it is "unusually difficult to foresee the trends of sales and profits in 1997".

Last year Vickers lifted pre-tax profits II per

cent to £83.3 million on sales that had risen 6 per cent to £1.19 billion. In its defence division, which included a full year's contribution from Vickers Bridging, Vickers lifted profits by E21 million to E18 ships for European and other international

The company denied that it is in talks with GKN over forging a formal alliance. Although Sir Colin said consolidation is needed in defence engineering, he insisted that Vickers "wanted to enter the consolidation arena from a

position of strength". Profits from the sale of Rolls-Royce and

million. The company is bidding for a big overseas order from Turkey and is in partner-million in the year to December 31 in spite of a 12 per cent rise in sales. The division suffered from weakened margins because of changes in model mix.

The final dividend, payable on May 2, was set at 4.5p. That makes a total for the year of 7.2p, which is a 7 per cent increase on the

Pennington, page 31

B&B plans doubling of benefits to £100m

BRADFORD & Bingley, the building society, yesterday raised the stakes in its battle against converting societies with a promise to double its members' benefits scheme to E100 million this year.

The society returned E43 million to members in the form of improved savings and mortgage rates from March to December 1996. This caused after-tax profits to fall £51.1 million, to £56.6 million, and operating profits to decline from £159.2 million to £92.5 million. This also reflected the E15 million cost of making 300 staff redundant and a £20 million hit arising from the

A&L sets date for flotation

BY ROBERT MILLER

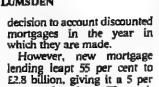
ALLIANCE & Leicester yesterday confirmed that its stock market debut as a £3.5 billion bank will take

place on April 21.

The building society, which also owns Girobank, will issue a flat 250 free shares to 24 million qualifying savers and borrowers. Customers who want to sell immediately will be able to do so through a free share deal-

Many. however. may prefer to wait in the expec tation that the share price will be driven higher as they join the elite in the FT-SE 100 index. Pension funds and unit trusts will need to build their holdings, as will the managers who track the index A&L will be ranked about 80th

in the index. The converting societies, with the exception of the Halifax, which has waived its rights, will be ring-fenced from hostile bids for up to five years under the new Building Societies Act. which is expected to receive Royal Assent on Friday. Protection will be lost if the new banks make a successful bid for a another recognised financial institution.



£2.8 billion, giving it a 5 per cent market share. The society's small independent financial planning business in-creased income by 80 per cent

Assets rose nearly 9 per cent, to £17 billion, and reserves increased £57 million to £901 million. Christopher Ro-drigues, the chief executive appointed last June, said: "Real mutuals don't need to maximise profits. For us a post-tex profit equivalent to 5 per cent of reserves is appropriate."

He went on: "When the conversion smokescreen clears and the one-off handouts have been paid what will really matter is the returns to members. We are doubling the dividends to our members from £1 million to £2 million a week to deliver rewards today and rewards tomorrow." As the first part of the

package the society claimed that rises of up to 1 per cent on its savings accounts heat rivals such as Abbey National, Alliance & Leicester, Halifax, Northern Rock and Woolwich. However, Northern Rock

criticised the society for not including its uncompetitive postal accounts. Adam Applegarth, executive director, said: The whole argument is ballyhoo. It is nonsense to make claims using selective rates. Even after the latest rate increase there is still clear blue water between them and

Bradford & Bingley will reveal new mortgage rates next month.

☐ Further details of the longawaited Norwich Union flotation will be revealed today (Anne Ashworth writes).

The three million with-profit pension policyholders are each expected to receive shares worth an average of £500. Various other categories of policyholder will also be included, such as the non-profit customers, but those that have only Norwich Union health, home and motor cover will be

excluded. Those who receive free shares will have the opportunity to apply for more, as the company is raising £2 billion

in new capital.



give most of its 80 discount stores a new look over five years. WEW made £1.63 million pre-tax profit in the half year to February ! (£3 million loss). There is again no interim dividend

defections

million), in the year to end-December, but underlying earnings growth has slowed. Staff departures in London

and New York resulted in a 33 per cent drop in NBI's operating income. Turnover in recruitment services rose to E84.5 million (£75.2 million). boosted by a full-year contribution from Goodman Gra-ham, an IT recruitment specialist. However, operating income was trimmed to £41.4 million (£39.1 million) and operating profits were little changed at £7.76 million.

The lacklustre performance reflects the mass departures of a year ago, when Miles Broadbent, NBI's co-founder, left to set up his own practice, and there were further defections in international offices. Under a lock-in clause, Mr Broadbent and the others were obliged to pay 50 per cent of their earnings to NBI during the first 12 months. The last such covenant expires at the end of the month, and the full impact of the loss of these

Group turnover increased to £115.2 million (£102.4 million). A final dividend of 5.2p (4.4p) a share makes a total of 7.6p (6.4p) a share for the year. Penna Holdings, the human resources company, has bought Selby MillSmith, a pyschometrics specialist, for an initial £300,000.

Earnings at BNB hit by

DEFECTING headhunters have left their mark on BNB Resources, the recruitment and training group that owns Norman Broadbent International (NBI), the executive search firm.

Pre-tax profits rose 11 per cent. to £6.4 million (£5.7

fee-earners is yet to be felt.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Weir ready to spend £80m on acquisition

WEIR GROUP, the engineering company, is prepared to spend up to 580 million on an acquisition this year to add a new leg to its pumps and valves business. Disappointed at nor making an acquisition last year. Viscount Weir, chief executive, said the group would be willing to expand outside its core businesses. Lord Weir refused to say whether the company will bid for Howden, the industrial fanmaker, or whether it is interested in any of Howden's subsidiaries.

Weir was reporting record pre-tax profits of E49 million (£45.5 million) for the year to December 27 and earnings of 17.4p a share, up from 16.6p. The dividend rises to 8p (7.5p), with a final 5.69p due June 12. It said the order book is already-15 per cent stronger, with £120 million expected from orders from the commission of the Trafalgar Class submarines and other nuclear handling work at Devonport dockyard.

Tesco's Irish move

TESCO is today expected to announce a major expansion in Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic with the purchase of the retailing interests of Associated British Foods for up to E700 million. The agreement includes the Stewarts/Crazy Prices chains in Northern Ireland and the Quinnsworth chain in the Republic. Stewarts/Crazy Prices has the largest market share in Northern Ireland with sales in the year to September 1995 of around £394 million and pre-tax profits of just over £11 million.

Record for Marley

DISPOSALS helped Marley, the building materials group, to return record results for last year after a £38.7 gain from return record results for last year after a E38.7 gain from selling its car parts division took pre-tax profits to £85 million (£46.3 million). The company said that sluggish markets had left underlying profits at £43.3 million (£41.9 million). Its US businesses generating £18.8 million. Overall, adjusted earnings were 9.4p (8.8p) per share. The final dividend rises to 5p (4.7p), with a final 2.9p due May 30.

Closures hit Halshaw

EVANS HALSHAW, the automotive distributor, incurred a pre-tax loss of £9.32 million in 1996 after a £19.8 million charge against the closure of 11 loss-making dealerships. Profits were £13.6 million in 1995. It plans to close a further four delearships, and find a buyer for another four. Although losses were 32.9p a share, against earnings of 28.8p last time, the dividend is maintained at 16.5p. A final 11p is due on May 12. The shares eased by 1p to 24712p.

Matthews diversifies

THE oven-ready turkeys that made Bernard Matthews famous now account for less than 7 per cent of the business, the food group said yesterday. Efforts to broaden the base of the business into the frozen, fresh, cooked meat and catering sectors paid off with pre-tax profits of £22.6 million (£18.7 million) in the year to December 29. Earnings per share were 12.69p (10.45p) and the final dividend of 2.4p (2p), payable on May 2, makes a total for the year of 4.1p (3.39p).

Devro up to £44m

DEVRO, the sausage skin maker, successfully absorbed costs of BSE and buying its bigger US rival, Teepak, to lift 1996 pre-tax profits 43 per cent to £44.4 million after exceptional charges, from £31.1 million in 1995. Exceptional charges were a £4.5 million BSE-related stock write-off and £10.5 million to integrate Teepak. Selling Devro America brought a £7.5 million exceptional gain. Earnings per share after exceptionals were 18.5p (17.4p). A final dividend of 5.7p (5.1p) makes 8.5p (7.7p).

Loftus Road in red

LOFTUS ROAD, the holding company for Queens Park Rangers Football Club and Wasps Rugby Club, made a £4.4 million half-year loss in its first set of interim results since it came to the Alternative Investment Market last year. The shares stayed at 63½p yesterday, against a year high of 106½p. The results included a loss of £2.9 million on transfer deals. The company has invested £900,000 in players since the half-year end. There is no dividend.

TOURIST RATES

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Canada \$	2.292	2.132	Norway Kr	11.37	10.5
Cyprus Cypf	0.803	0.776	Portugal Esc	278.50	260.0
Denmark Kr	10.76	9.95	& Ainca Rd	7.63	6.8
Sintanci Mhk	8.54	7.89	Spain Pla	237.50	220.5
Trance Fr	9.40	5,75	Sweden Kr	13.03	12.0
Germany Drp.	2.82	2.61	Switzerland Fr	2.42	2.2
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Savoy looks forward | Watchdog closes to fruits of revamp BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

SAVOY HOTEL hopes to

improve overall occupancy and room rates when restoration programme completed this summer.

The company said that it would also benefit from the improvements made in service. standards and management control. But there was no news about the future of Granada's 68 per cent stake in the company, which is expected to be put up for sale soon.

Savoy yesterday announced a 35 per cent increase in fullyear profits, excluding tax and exceptional items, to £15.2 million. The shares fell 5p to £14.32½p. Overall turnover

rose 3 per cent to £91 million.

The dividend is 25 per cent higher, at 17.5p for A shares and 8.7p for B shares, payable on May 26.

Exceptional costs of £39.9 million related mainly to a writedown in asset values. The operating profit margin rose from 13.2 to 17.1 per cent.

The restoration saw Savoy lose 22 per cent of its rooms during the year, with the potential lost revenue estimated at £8 million. Occupancy rose from 73 per cent to 84 per

cent of available moms. The increase in room rates had been kept at 4 per cent, but Savoy is confident of being able to make an increase in line with the market this year.

Philip Alexander

BY ROBERT MILLER

A CITY watchdog yesterday closed down Phillip Alexander Securities and Futures after the High Court ruled it "was satisfied that the firm is, or is likely to become, unable to pay

The Securities and Futures Authority said Phillip Alexander Securities and Futures had agreed to cease carrying out investment business, and to transfer control of remaining client funds to the administrators.

in 1991 the firm was fined £20,000 by the SFA for rule breaches including the issue of an advertisement that carried a misleading claim. Last April ment identifying areas of concern from the previous year relating to the manner in which Phillip Alexander Securities and Futures carried out business introduced to the firm by overseas brokers. These included poor performance of client accounts, excessive commission and charges and "the large number and similarity

of complaints". The firm has four executives registered with the SFA. They are Brian Cowley, senior executive officer: Paul Atkins, director and registered trader: Paul Marsden, registered manager and finance officer: and William Pepper. nonexecutive director.

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☐ Calling the shots on the Co-op ☐ City cools to Vickers ☐ Positive picture from the retail sales figures

THE Salvation Army has hired Attila the Hun. The men at the top of the Co-operative movement must feel they need all the help they can get against Lanica Trust, if they are prepared to employ one of the City's toughest corporate financiers.
Brian Keelan of SBC Warburg

Brian Keelan of SBC Warburg has made his name on the aggressive side of City takeover bids, but he is therefore a good defender by definition and should be able to extract the best price for the Co-op. Except for one huge reservation, which is that there is no bid on the table for the Co-op or bits of it from for the Co-op or bits of it from Lanica, Andrew Regan's investment vehicle, or its 90 per centowned associate Gaileo, and the Co-op has made it clear any offer will not be considered.

≟ move

Received wisdom, therefore, has Mr Regan as a Don Quixote tilting at windmills that are firmly anchored to the ground. One day he will have to admit, in public, that the deal cannot be done. Lanica's shares, which motored to close to £20 before their suspension on froth and speculation, will start to trade again, and collapse. SBC will pocket one of the least earned defence fees in history.

Except for another huge reservation, which is that you

don't hire a defender if you are not under attack. Let us therefore

Attila rides to the rescue

consider how. Mr Regan starts with a decent advantage, access to big City hitters for capital. He is reckoned to have £1.5 billion to hand, potentially. His disadvantage is an air of

someone who went into a deep freeze around 1988 and has just been defrosted for the purpose, the mutant son of Gordon Gekko. This may be unfair but it is the image, which is why sectors of the Labour Party are not keen to hand the Co-op movement over to him.

His other disadvantage is the weird nature of the Co-op. The parallel has been drawn with a mutual, following the Scottish Amicable's discovery of how nasty it can be in the real world, but this is incorrect. It is more like an old-fashioned trade union. The members own the Coop, and derive scant satisfaction from this, but they do not have direct control. This, broadly, is delegated upwards through committees of mandated Co-op members to the board at the top, and executives appointed by those

mandated members. This hermetically sealed structure stops any direct appeal to

members. All Lanica/Galileo can do is try to rouse them to put pressure on their delegates. These in turn put pressure on the board and executives, who are currently proving obdurate. Think of it as a management buy-in by Mr Regan, who would want ownership of some or all of the assets. In return he would offer members a better return on their membership.

Put this way, it still looks extremely difficult but not impossible. The heavy odds must still be on Lanica shares crashing on re-listing and a contrite admission of failure, but those odds are very hard to call.

Tanks for all your patience

UVICKERS is one of those dull companies to which something interesting must eventually hap-pen. Unfair, certainly, to one of our most distinguished export-ers, but something has been about to happen to the walnut dashboards of its Rolls-Royce and Bentley cars or the armoured shells of its tanks for

PENNINGTON



so long that City speculators at least are running out of patience.

Hard to believe it is a difficult business making and selling Rollers, but while sales are tooling along nicely as the "feel-good" factor filters through, mar-gins are under pressure, and hence a 10 per cent fall in operating profits from cars.

Having survived the nightmare days of 1991 and 1992, Vickers is determined to see its luxury car division properly restored to glory, gleaming up-holstery and a convincing financial performance. Those analysts downgrading profits yesterday are less easily not convinced that such determined loyalty to fancy motors is worthwhile,

Vickers is equally firm about

its defence operation. Further consolidation in defence engineering is going to come, even if the need is not as pressing as in aerospace. Sir Colin Chandler, the chief executive of Vickers, must accept this, but would like it to happen on his terms and is playing down rumoured links with GKN, another of Britain's four armoured vehicle makers. Tanks outshoot armoured cars every time: Vickers makes the

former, GKN the latter - and

Sir Colin would sooner call the shots than field them. A large tank order from Turkey may help him, but it would not be the huge boost some observers hope for. Fortunes in defence will rather depend on a couple of awards from the army, for reconnaissance equipment and a combat engineer tractor. Whichever of the bidding consortia wins is likely to hold the keys to the shape of European defence engineering.

Analysts are generally gloomy about prospects for defence, fear-ing the effects of a future orders gap even if one looms somewhat nearer for GKN. Vickers shares now sell on less than 14 times

this year's earnings, but in the absence of positive developments market sentiment is likely to

High street tills ring in the election

☐ THE Governor of the Bank of England's monthly calls for higher interest rates have an increasingly ritualistic look about them. A quarter of a per cent is really neither here nor there, but Eddie George must keep on hammering away even if we all know a base rate rise weeks from the election is about as likely as a 100-seat Conservative majority thereafter.

He has pulled back from suggesting a half-point increase,

which suggests even he accepts the ritual being played out. But set aside for a moment the earnings figures, which could be inflated by all those awful City bonuses, and there is enough ammunition in the February retail sales to suggest the Chan-cellor has right as well as political expediency in his side. The catch is the mismatch

between the rise in the volume of sales in February, adjusted for inflation and ahead of City expectations, and the rise in the value of sales, unadjusted. The difference between these is the measure of inflation on the high street, and this is now running at just I per cent year on year.
Sales growth indicates a

healthy economy, but inflation appears under control. This may be reading too much from a monthly take on figures that are notoriously erratic, but it does coincide with what we can all see happening in the real world. Consumers are spending, but wisely; we are all used to cheap prices and we are not going to accept sudden increases. Good news for whoever is Chancellor by the summer, even if political machismo may require a token rise in base rates then.

Zaire warning

☐ STANDARD & Poor's, the risk consultant, has drawn up a list of the world's ten most dangerous currencies for speculators. The old Soviet Union does predictably badly, but the two worst? On level pegging, Albania and Zaire. Bet you feel safer for knowing that. Somehow the old advice to beware, the value of your investment can fall as well as rise, hardly seems to be enough here, does it?

Kingfisher to expand in Asia as profits jump

KINGFISHER, the retailing conglomerate, is joining the expansion of Britain's retailers abroad with plans to open two new branches of B&Q, the DIY market leader, in Taiwan.

Sir Geoffrey Mulcahy, chief executive, said that the openings would build up Kinglisher's understanding of the Asian market and could lead to openings there of its other formats - which include Woolworths, Comet and Superdrug — in the future. The decision to push on with

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

UNICHEM, the pharma-

ceutical wholesaling and re-

ceutical wholesaling and re-tailing group, spent £16.1 million on its year-long and ultimately fruitless pursult of Lloyds Chemists, it disclosed yesterday. The takeover campaign

ended on January 17 when

UniChem conceded to Ger-

many's Gehe, the rival bid-

der. Unichem paid £14.2 mil-

lion in fees, costs and under-

writing commission. Fin-

ancing its 9.9 per cent stake

in Lloyds cost UniChem a further £1.9 million, but the

company made a net profit on selling the stake of £2.9 million. The bid's net cost

was therefore £13.2 million.

After exceptionals, Uni-

Chem made pre-tax profit in

the year to December 31 of

£40.3 million, against £49.4

million a year earlier. Jeff Harris, chief executive,

said that UniChem now in-

tends to double the number of Moss Chemists outlets,

from the current 450. It plans

openings follows a successful trial in Taiwan of the first foreign branch of B&Q.

Sir Geoffrey was speaking as he unveiled better-than-expected full-year results for the group. Pre-tax profit in the 52 weeks to February I was 24.7 per cent higher at £388.7 million on turnover up 10.1 per cent to a record £5.82 billion.

Many analysts raised their forecasts for this year by between £5 million and £15 million to around £440 million. Sir Geoffrey declined to

UniChem spent

£16m in bid fight

comment on repeated rumours linking Kingfisher with both Wickes, the troubled DIY chain, and Littlewoods, which is planning to sell its chain of 135 stores. He said the emphasis was on organic growth and in-fill acquisitions, but he did

from B&Q. Comet and Wool-

B&Q's sales grew 14.1 per cent, with like-for-like growth

profits from Norweb Retail. acquired in November for a net £25 million, is added. Darty, the French electricals market leader, was steady in a difficult market and its likefor-like sales crept up 2.2 per cent. The company acquired a 26 per cent stake in But, a

Geoffrey said. Woolworths produced record profits, up 28.8 per cent to £84.1 million on like-for-like sales growth of 8.2 per cent. The company is introducing three separate types of Wool-

pharmacies. UniChem Is also seeking a big European wholesaling acquisition. Earnings per share excluding exceptional costs were 20.2p (19p). A final divi-dend of 5.8p (5.3p), payable on July I, makes 8.8p (8p).

Harris: wants more shops

from 41 last year. Buying

Lloyds would have meant

the group controlling 1,300

Tempus, page 32

not rule out larger purchases. Strongest growth came

worths. According to Sir Geoffrey: "It flows from our concentration on markets we know and understand, centred on the home and family, new ideas in-store, which our customers like, and improved

of 9.9 per cent. Profit grew by 75.5 per cent to £97.2 million. A recovery at Comet led to like-for-like sales growth of 13.2 per cent, before additional

French furniture and electricals retailer, during the year but has not yet decided whether to increase that holding. Sir

worth, depending on location, and is investing in upgrading the look and range of goods available. The three new types are city, heartland and local. So far 117 stores have been

converted to the local look. Earnings per share were 41.7p (31.5p). The final dividend of 14p (11.7p), payable on July 4, gives a full-year divi-dend of 14p (16.2p).



Andrew Calvert, finance director, left, and Dennis Webb, chief executive, saw Beazer sell more houses at higher prices

Rising house sales boost Beazer

HOUSE sales at Beazer Group were up by a fifth, with volume growth and higher selling prices helping the company to raise pre-tax profits 29 per cent to £23.8 million, and Beazer expects the growth to continue in the current year (Carl Mortished writes).

Reservations are up 35 per cent from Reservations are up 35 per cent from the same period last year. However, 2,570 in the same period in 1995, and Dennis Webb, chief executive, expects average selling prices were up 18 per cent

WILLIAMS HOLDINGS,

which is in the midst of a El.3

billion bid for Chubb, yester-day expressed confidence

about its main markets this

year as it unveiled a 49 per

cent rise in full-year profits to

Shares in the security and

Williams shares have recov-

ered strongly since initial fears

home improvement products company climbed 5p to close

E340 million.

Williams Holdings

unveils 49% increase

By Alasdair Murray

cash and paper agreed bid for Chubb prompted the shares to fall to 300p. The first closing

date for acceptances is Friday.

ed by a £97 million one-off

gain from the sale of its building products division. Operating profits, which were

flagged at the time of the bid last month, increased 15 per

cent to £269 million. The total

dividend rises 5.6 per cent to

15.05p. A final dividend of

Headline profits were boost-

ment to the market has stretched the thin labour resource pool and we are beginning to experience delays to build

programmes in some regions."

Beazer sold 3,126 houses in the half

only 20 per cent of the growth to convert to £73,000. However, higher prices did not completions. He said: "The improvethe growth stems from Beazer's policy of selling bigger houses. "We are spending more on land, and the land is supporting

higher-priced income," he explained.

The company is raising the interim dividend by 5 per cent to 2.1p from earnings of 5.83p, up 27 per cent on last

Ionica calls up £215m to develop network

By Christine Buckley, Industrial correspondent

IONICA, the telephone opera-tor in which Northern Electric and Yorkshire Electricity have large stakes, has secured £215 million to fund expansion in

the UK. The company, which is moving towards a stock market flo-tation within a year, raised the money in the debt markets by issuing senior discount notes. in a debt facility arranged with Bankers Trust, and through a private equity placement comthat it is overpaying with its 9.25p is payable on May 29. pleted last month. This means

that lonics has now raised a total of E400 million.

The new capital will support the start of Ionica's services in the Midlands and the further roll-out of its operations throughout the country. Ionica last year began con-

necting customers in eastern England and has attracted 14,000 customers. It intends to expand its network to cover 80 per cent of all phone lines in the UK, excluding Scotland,

Advertising spend fuels profits leap

A bigger slice of the fastgrowing newspaper advertising spend in the Republic of Ireland helped increase in annual pre-tax profits at Independent Newspapers to Ir £73.5 million. Earnings rose 14 per cent to 1r16.5p a share. Turnover increased 14 per cent to Ir£419 million.

In the Republic of Ireland, where independent controls almost 75 per cent of the domestic newspaper market, operating profits rose 33 per cent to IrE34 million, with both advertising and circulation income benefiting from the strong growth of the economy. In contrast, New Zealand and Australia were sluggish.

In Britain, losses associated with Independent's 46 per cent stake in Newscreased to IrES million. Liam Healy, the chief executive, said the joint venture arrangement with Mirror Newspapers was working well, and he rejected speculation that changes were

A final dividend of 1r4.6p a share lifts the total 18 per cent to Ir6.9p.

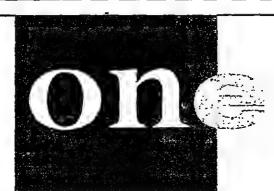
TT purchase

TT Group, the acquisitive conglomerate, is buying GEC's wire and cables business for £16 million. TT is also taking on certain liabilities. The Wire and Cables Group made a profit of £2 million on sales of £197 million in the year to March 1996. On completion, the business had capital employed of £58 million and borrowings of £24

Visa record

Visa, the plastic debit and credit card provider backed by the UK banks, will today unveil a record 1996, with domestic expenditure rising by 25 per cent to £76.1 billion. The number of cardholders rose by 15 per cent to top 40





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Fear of post-election rate rise unsettles investors

SHARE prices and government bonds were beating a ragged retreat last night amid fears of an interest rate rise immediately after the general

Evidence of a build-up in inflationary pressures was contained in the latest average earnings numbers which rose to the highest level since November 1992. The figure in January grew to 5 per cent compared with City estimates of around 4.25 per cent.

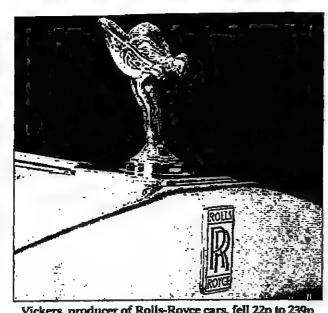
At his last monthly economic meeting with the Chancellor, Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, called for a rise in rates. But, as the minutes of the meeting pub-lished yesterday show, he was again overruled by Kenneth Clarke. Brokers say it now seems likely that rates will be forced up quickly after the

This was enough to unsettle investors and left gilts nursing falls of almost £1, while a near 70-point setback for the Dow Jones industrial average after the latest rise in the US inflation numbers under-mined equities. The FT-SE 100 index wiped out an early lead of 15 points to close 24.6 down at 4,332.2 Turnover was a healthy 902 million shares bolstered by numerous bed and breakfast transactions designed to establish tax losses before the financial year end.

crude overnight in New York attracted fresh demand for the oil companies. Enterprise Oil grew 16½p to 663p, Cairn Energy 56p to 634½p, and Monument Oil and Gas 1p to 87p. BT jumped a further 19p to 461 2 p. stretching its lead over the past two days to 25p. It follows a presentation on Monday for brokers to discuss future strategy after the acquisition of MCI. The MCI deal is aimed at enabling the group to achieve international status. By the close of business a total of 33 million shares had changed hands.

Cable and Wireless rose 3p to 509p after playing down speculation that it was about to bid for Sprint, the US telecoms group. The insurers were unsettled by suggestions that a Labour government would increase corporation tax. Commercial Union fell dent, 16p at 806p. Prudential 11p at 5692p, and United Assurance 94 p at 515p.

Whispers about an imminent profits warning saw



Vickers, producer of Rolls-Royce cars, fell 22p to 239p

Carpetright touch 547 p before rallying to close 164p down at 5624p. The company moved quickly to dispel market rumours. Ian Sneyd. finance director, who was yesterday meeting fund maners at the offices of Kleinwort Benson, the broker, said the company had no plans to make any formal announcement. Brokers were

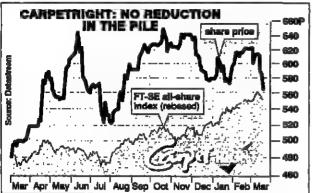
have now begun uprgading their estimates for the current year. The shares responded with a jump of 22 p to 697p. The news from Kingfisher also boosted Dixons, up 11-2p to 508p, Next, 10p to 595p, and Marks & Spencer. 7p at 472p.

High-flying Xenova Group soared 100p to 435p on news of its tie-up with larger rival Zeneca to develop and market

Parity, the computer software group, fell 10p to 5332p after HSBC James Capel, the broker, placed one million shares at 527p. They belonged to Philip Swinstead, deputy chairman, reducing his holding to two million. The shares were acquired in 1993 at 60p when he led the original management buy-in.

currently looking for between £33 million and £35 million.

The speculation follows recent profit warnings from Limelight Group, down 10p at 972p, and MFI, ip lighter at 14412 p. Stronger than expected performances from its B&Q and Woolworth outlets helped Kingfisher to exceed City expectations with pre-tax profits growing from £311.7 million to £388.7 million. Brokers drugs. Xenova has also confirmed that its XR5000 and XR9051 cancer therapies are about to enter phase two and phase one trials respectively. Zeneca was 3p lighter at £17.76. First Leisure finished 162p shy at 3452p as a large line of stock went through the market. A line of 450,000 shares was recorded at 353p followed by two lines of 250,000 at 349p and 3545p



respectively. There was much
scratching of heads at Hay &
Robertson where the price
touched 105p before ending a
net 312p down on the day at
124p. The price has come hack
from a peak of 178p this year
much to the astonishment of
the board which knows of no
reason for the fall.

News of a boardroom de parture left E W Fact 6p lower at 66 2p. Andrew Perkins is resigning as chief executive just two months in the job. The accountancy training per cent to £1.69 million although competition is increasing. Vickers has become the latest company to feel the affects of a strong pound. The price dropped 22p to 239p despite lifting profits last year Il per cent to £83.3 million. But brokers say the strong pound hold back profits

A positive statement on current trading lifted Marky 6p to 1252 p. Profits last year were almost doubled with debt halved. A doubling of pre-tax profits also helped Trinity International to a rise of 15p at 5032p. Positive trading statements were good for Devro, 15p stronger at 280p, UniChem, up 122p at 260p, Aegis, 2p firmer at 62 p, and CNC Properties, 3p dearer at 682p, while a return to the black supported Television Corporation, 42p hetter at 197p.

☐ GILT-EDGED: Those higher than expected average earnings numbers cut a swath through the bond market and produced a further flattening of the yield curve. The prospect of an early rise in interest rates after the election seems to be growing by the day.

Prices at the longer end suffered early falls and continued drifting to close at their low point. In the futures pit, the June series of the long gilt ended £2732 down at £109516 as a total of 115,000 contracts

In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 fell £1116 to £1021116. while among shorter dated coupons Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £3s off at £10219/32. □ NEW YORK: A broad selloff in the high technology sector led Wall Street shares lower in morning trading. Analysts leaders had had a demoralising effect on the overall market. At midday the Dow Jones industrial average was down 66.47 points at 6,830.09.

MAJOR INDICES New York (midday): [8493.71 (+48.51) Hong Kong. [365].42 (-47.49) Amsterdam Frankfurt Singapore 2130.56 (-3.73) Brussels Paris

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of	London:
ດ	FT 30 2868.7 (-12.5)
_	FT (00 4332.2 (-24.6)
	YTSE MIJ 250
-	FTSE 350
T	FTSE Eurotrack 100 2141.03 (-5.83)
s	FT All-Share 21 15.4 (-10.16)
_	FT Non Financials 2176.02 (-5.28)
2	FT Flated Interest 118.10 (-0.13)
е	FT Gov1 Secs
	Bargains 67274
8	SEAQ Volume 902.2m
	US\$ 1_5966 (-0.0008)
-	German Mark 26850 (+0.0207)
- 1	Exchange Index 96.3 (+0.6)
e	Bank of England official close (4pm)
e	L:ECU 1.3612
- 1	£:SDR 1.1523
e	RP1 154.4 Jan (2.8%) Jan 1987=100
P	RPIX 153.9 Jan (3.1%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Aortech	120%	
Aurora Inv Trust	100	
Birmingham City	4612	- 2
Cambridge Mini Res	14	
Centrica (75'z)	58%	- 1
Core Group	30 L	+ 3
Dobbies Grdn Ctrs	260	
Energy Group (525)	4831:	- 11
Girovend Csh Sys	LENE	
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M & G High Cap		
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Psd Group	2631:	- 8
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Screen	54	• • •
Technoplast	1101:	- 2
Usher of Trowbridge	12012	

RIGHTS ISSUES

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TS n/p (100)	1612	-	312	ı
artco n/p (300)	34	• •		ı

MAJOR CHANGES

West 243 TP (+20P)
Caim Energy 634 2p (+56p)
Euro Telecom 234p (+19p)
Kenwood App 148'sp (+11p)
Devro
Courtauld Text 264p (+13'zp)
Smart (J) 247'sp (+10p)
Kingfisher 697p (+22°20)
Enterprise 663p (+1612p)
Décons Group 508p (+1112p)
FALLS:
Danka Bs Sys 5121:p (-65p)
Prism Rail 295p (-30p)
Vickers 239p (-22p)
Regent Inns 309p (-21'zp)
Alexon 181'sp (+10p)
Slagecoach 6890 (-341:0)

505p (-25p) Lloyds TSB 499p (-14½p) Closing Prices Page 35

Elsevier AEA Tech ...

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES DOLLAR RATES

790p (-25p)

99134p (-31p)

TEMPUS

Rain on the parade

WHY is City advice so expensive? Poor old UniChem has just paid more than £16 million to various bankers, lawyers, underwriters and masseurs of the media for their part in its failed attempt to take over Lloyds Chemists. For roughly the same money, UniChem bought 40 chemist shops last year, an

investment more likely to yield dividends. Bids are not a bad thing; they can shake up sleepy, self-satisfied managers and Uni-Chem's strategy was not flawed but merely beaten by a wealthy German rival. It is the cost of bidding which has become absurd and threatens to discredit the process. Frequently. a bid is little more than a beauty parade between two sets of managements who want to attract capital. The directors sing and dance and the fund managers try to pick a winner. Unfortunately, the process has attracted the parasitical attentions of self-appointed experts: the City's choreographers and beauticians. Their antics often eclipse their clients but the bills have to be paid and, ultimately, the cost is borne by us all.

But why should bid advice be expensive? Underwriting is a cost — UniChem paid £45. million — but competition between capital providers should keep the price down in a strong equity market. The cost of people is more difficult to defend. All bids follow ascript written in the Takeover Code; each side anacks the other's track record: extravagant but vague claims are made about the future, There is little ingenuity or imagination involved and the outcome is decided by fund managers who weigh up their greed for a higher price against fear of losing money on the table. This is hardly rocket science.

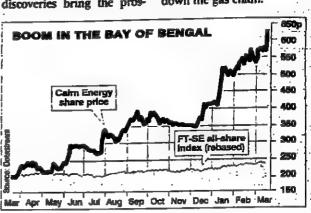
Cairn Energy

CAIRN is a classic oil and gas exploration play which is coming right in speciacular fashion. It also fuels the debate about how small oil explorers should deploy their resources. Unlike rivals that spread their eggs in many baskets. Caim is almost exclusively invested in the Bay of Bengal, an area it targeted at a time when others considered it high political risk. However, the company correctly guessed that energy demand would soar and that necessity would compel Bangladesh to open up its economy to foreign investment. As a result, Cairn owns rights over two blocks the size of 75 blocks in the North Sea. One of them has yielded the Sangu field where Cairn reckons that, on an unrisked

cubic feet of gas. More wells to be drilled this year should add to reserves and a joint venture with Shell will bring financial resources to exploit Cairn's huge acreage.

Gas is the key to Cairn's amble and the link-up with Shell's technology: Bangla-desh has demand for most of the existing gas but more discoveries bring the pros-

pect of exports to India, where industrial development has created an acute energy shortage. The country currently imports expensive liquefied natural gas at twice the price paid by Cairn's power station cus-tomer in Bangladesh. Piping gas to India opens bigger markets and profits further down the gas chain.



Kingfisher

RESULTS from Kingfisher. like a bag of pick'n'mix from Woolies, were full of good things to chew over with for once — no nasty surprises lurking at the bottom.

basis there may be I trillion

Most welcome was confirmation that B&Q is outstripping all others in the DIY sector, extending its lead with a 9.9 per cent increase in likefor-like sales, well ahead of the sector's 6 per cent growth. Impressive, albeit helped by continuing problems at its rivals: Wickes, Sainsbury's Homebase and Do It All.

Growth at Woolworths was outstanding with likefor-like sales up 8.2 per cent, while Comet showed a strong recovery and Darty held its own in a weak French market.

Having got this far, the problem for Kingfisher is growth. strong long-term reckon the electricals market, where Cornet battles Currys and Dixons, is about

to plateau. As Comet gains sales, the leaders could retaliare, preventing it from building up its weak margins.

Maintaining the momenturn at Woolworths means more stores and the company reckons there is room for 40 big city centre stores, adding 15-20 per cent to selling space. Getting the sites with ad hoc purchases could take five years so there must be a temptation to find a shorter route and Littlewoods is on the market. Nevertheless, Kinglisher is not a reckless buyer, cautious to move into new territory, such as its Asian venture. Even after yesterday's 3 per cent jump in the share price, there is more room for growth.

Kexam

THE giant car boot sale of 20 unwanted businesses set up been quick to deliver results. Three companies have been sold, one business is in solicitor's hands and a further four

or five disposals are at advanced stages of negotiation. The packaging conglomerate will not find it so easy after buyers have picked off the best of the bunch. Nevertheless, Rexam is to be given credit for swift action to protect itself from a wobbly market.

Apart from the asset sales. Rexam is pruning internally. with the closure of a couple of paper plants and the loss of 1,200 jobs. The restructuring should deliver £20 million in annual cost savings although they will not hit the profit line until next year.

The reshaping of Rexam should not only deliver a leaner and more focused beast but also one that enjoys better market positions than it may so far have been given credit for.Rexam is still 🛎 creature of the paper cycle. With pulp prices having hit tricky business of maintaining its margins as costs rise.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

Lippe	(CIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)	ONI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES
	CRUDE OILS #/barrel POB)	LIFFE WHEAT LIFFE BARLEY
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Aug 305.5-05 0 Jun	ing Apr 175.00-75.25 Jul 177.79-79.2	LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd \$10/pg)
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COMMISSION	May 20.40-20.47 Aug	
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markets on March 18	Jul 20.19-20.33 Vol. 2634	findex (493 +3
	nie	
	65	ALASTIC PROBLEMANCE DE LA MINISTER
		IN METAL EXCHANGE Rudolf Wolf
	.53 Copper Gde A (S/tonnel Casts: 2376	D-2377 D 3 auch: 2136,0-2537 O Vol: [503] 2
		0-098100 041.00-041.50 Z3570
(%)		£-1263.5 1285.0-1285.5 92097;
		£0-6020 0 \$990£04000£ 2536
		D-1609.0 [643.5-7644.0 213952
(%)14.0 -3.0 +	3.0 Nickel (\$/torune)	D-787ULI 7450 0-7940 0 13418

MEAT A LIVESTOCK	May 170.25-76-50 Aug . 179.07-79.25 Vol: 14826 BRENT (b.00pm)	Mar 97 High Low Close Mar 97 1502 1503 1505 Apr 97 1502 1593 1595 May 97 1570 1565 1576
COMMISSION Average lassock prices at representative markets on March 18	Muy 20.40-20.43 Aug	Mail
(p/kg (w) Pig 5/kmp Cante GR (2770) 2246 149.57 99.65		
147-1		METAL EXCHANGE Rudolf Well
Eng/Wilds: #3.12 190.56 98.53	Copper Gde A (Stronnel Caste 2376.0-	
(*/-)1.5u -1.59 +1.21	Lead HAVINES 697.50-	
(%)	Zinc Spec Hi Gde (\$/10/1/te) 1263.0-	
1+/-)	Tin (\$/tonne)	
(%)	Nickel (\$/tonnel	
. 7	LIFFE OPTIONS	ar the first of the second
Calls Page Series Apr Jul Oct Apr Jul Oct	Calls Page Series Apr Jul Oct Apr Jul Oct	" Calls Page
Alid Doru 420 49': 47 54 1', 10 14	SCHOLARI IN OCLARI JALOS	Series Apr Jul Oct Apr Jul On
19574 460 11' 21' 31 13 27' 314	BAA 500 IF 31 37", 6 18": 22	Abby Nat TRO 43 60" 78". 6". 21 29".
ASDA 100 91 (11, 13 01 21, 5	r*504) 550 ti. 10 lii 41 49 511,	(*734) 750 N 39. 51% 25% 43 52%
1°1071 IND 21 6 71, 41, 7 91,	Thumes W., 680 27 49 535 14 39 41	Arpstrad 40
Briots 650 41's 54' 62 3 14' 14',	(1965) 700 7 265 315 407 665 705	Burclays [050 4o 82 98': 10 26': 46'.
(1680') 700 to 24'- 34', 21 37', 42',		C1042'4 1100 18 545 71 31 49 48
Br Airways, not 49 not 71 1/, 121 199; C'644U 650 131 30 421, 161 34 an	Series May Aug Nov May Aug Nov	Natl Per 490 44 27
		(*491) BOO NO NO NO NO 17", NE 45".
8P	BTR 250 15 22 25 7 10 14	
Br Steel 140 19. 22 225 0 35 95	Frank) 280 9, 12, 164 17 21 247 Br Aero 1300 73/:110 132 26/: 41/: 54	Series Apr Jul Oct Apr Jul Oct
(*1584) 160 4 9 10 \$ 13 15		UNION W 1050 54 90 1031: 10 271: 44
C&W 500 24 40 90 80 24 an	(*13334) 1350 464 835 105 484 645 765 Di Telcon 420 48 57 585 2 9 13	(*1093) 1100 24': 61 75': 27 48', 66'
(°512°.) 590 5 18°- 28°, 30 52°, 58°,	(*402'-) 460 IV 30'- 33 13 II 30'	HSBC 1500 51 110 130% 28 62 01%
CT: b50 40°- 67 86 9 30 40°.	Cadbury 900 #1 557 607 6 12 110	(*1516) 1600 125 65 93 91 122 146
(*677%) 200 (7 41% 61 32 54% 74%	(530'9 550 13', 27 34 27', 34 37',	Reviet 600 33 54'. 66'. 11 34'. 29.
[C] 700 30° 40°, 90° 7°, 18 28° 6°719°, 250 30°, 25° 34°, 34°, 34°, 34°, 34°, 34°, 34°, 34°	Galtaness . 400 27: 37: 44': 10 16: 19	[16] 650 男 30 45 35 48 59.
	(*48.7'-) 400 9 19 25 33', 38 39',	Royal # Sun 431 24', 4
	GEC 360 TO 39 43 31 11 14	1430) 460 8': 22 32': 10': 24': 32
	(*385) 390 12°. 21 28°. 14 25°. 28	Series May Aug Nov May Aug Nov
71 6 5 460 19 24', 38 5'; 17 20 (1472) 500 3'; 12 20 29'; 41'; 43	Hanson 300 IIV 23'1 27'- 10'- 13'7 IV/	
Nai West 700 22 47 58 14' 24' 42'	(*3027) 330 47 ldf. 141, 295 31 361.	Blue Cirt 340 335: 405-46 - 75: 125: 18
(*709) 750 dr. 251 3n d7 56 7]	LASMO 240 III 28' 34 7': 13 12 C2S-0 280 13 IIII 27: 17 19: 21	P419.1 420 14 29: 30 21 29: 32
Safeway 330 20% 28 33° 2% 13°, 17		Series May Aug Nov May Aug Nov
P3451.1 360 5 13 197 177, 339 339	LucasVarity 180 22°, 17 30° 3 4°, 8 (*1997) 200 9°, 18 19 10 12°, 10°;	Kingfishr 650 50'1 62'1 72': 10 20 24'
Sainsburg _ 30u 30t, 35t 40 1 7 9	Plikingin DM [2 [5 - 34 7] -	CO47] 700 HV 34', 45'; 33'; 41, 47';
(*328°.) 330 9 len 22°. 9 jan 21	1°136'.) 140 W: 11'5 = 8 13 =	
Shell 1050 48 61° 75 15° 32 44 (*1087°) 1000 17° 80° 40° 40° 40° 50° 70	Printerrital . Swi 27' 66 53'- 17 26 33	Series Mar Jun Mar Jun
100 11 20 de de 21 10	(*571) 600 (0 22 31), 47), 545 60),	Br Gas 220 ft, 1st - 0 13 -
	Rediand 360 25': 32 39', 13'- 21 24',	(*2294) 240 0 7 - 115 25 -
(*923)	("375") 390 (0 10", 26", 31", 38", 41";	Series Mar Jun Sep Mar Jun Sep
jung 330	R-Royce 220 225 31 345 5 10 115	Diagns 500 8 33, 43 0 pc, 20
Trailipar 90	(*234) 240 10 20 24 134 10 207,	1°5080 590 B 13 21 42 486 575
(una) N)	Tesco	EMI Group 1100 425 KP: 1075 0 29 48
Zeneta 1700 94 151 1431 151, 481, 645	(°334) 360 3 10 15 34 37 40	P11425) 1150 0 55 79 75 50 705
(*1774) 1900 40 97* 135 53° 92 109	Williams 330	Tarmac 90 IV 105 I3 0 3 35
Series Apr Jul Oct Apr Jul Oct	unay .au	TWO 100 6 5 8 15 75 8
	FTSE INDEX (1934)	HUISONO_ 180 B 12 14 0 75 9
	• •	(*188) AND 0 3 5½ 12 21½ 12°.
Manage 20 21 211 241 42, 34 56,	4200 4250 4300 4350 4400 4450	Longho 140 10 15 18" 0 4" 6";
		MISO 160 0 5 W. 10 14': 17
24 1-1 41 34 3	Calls	Sears 90
SeriesMay Aug NovMay Aug Nov	Mar 134 85, 42 8, 1 1	(MDM) 100
GTI Alet . 400 41 51 59 41 11 15	Apr 155 117 625 52 30 15	TOWN ENGINEER
['492''] 900 16 Z 35', 19', 24', 31'.	May 191 153 1214 907 68 47	(unq) 1600
Ladhrole 20 (7 24 37, 31 7 10 (7319) 20 60 13 15 15 16		Tomkim 260 13': 23 28 0 6 12
-	Dec 337' - 273 - 217' -	(*273*) 280 0 13 17 8/ 14/, 21/,
Utd Bisc 220 to 25 2a 5 B, 12, (239) 340 b 14 175 145 18 22		Lioyds TSB. 460 39 529 62 0 7 14 C499 500 0 27 38 1 21 30.
117 10 45	The same of the sa	C4V4 500 0 27 30 1 21 39.
March 19, 1997 Tel: 54764 Call: 22790	Apr 23 35°: 51 71°: 101 137 May 52 63 81°: 107°, 129 158	(*3384) 351 0 167
Put: 39975 FTNE Call: 4275 Past corr	Jun 70°. 8a'. 104 122°, 148°, 175	Unlike er 1800 135 53 91 0 45 54
Underlying security price.	Dec 1% - 13% - 214	(*1617) (70) 0 185 401 BA-117 130

- 1	Long Cile							14
	Long Gilt Previous open Interest: 206455	Mar 97 . Jun 97	110-35	130-25	109-03	109-27	1927 Lib394	
?	German Govt Bond (Bund)	Jun 97	100.08	100.34	WAS	99.95	120335	U
í	Previous open Intenest: 229837	Sep 97 .	99,34	99,34	99,20	99.10	103]
: 1	Italian Govt Bond (BTP)	Jun 97 _	124.45	125.10	724.36	134,87	70564	1 :
Ġ	Previous open interest 1112/2	Sep 97 .	124 72	124.72	124.72	124 92	24	П
1	Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Juan 97	126.13	125.13	125.98	15.9	1329	L
J		Sep 97 _				13440	U	Li
-]	Three Mth Sterling	Mar 97 .	93.74	93 75	93.64	43.69	11462	Li
Н	Previous open Interest: 524802	Jun 97 _ Sep 47 .	93.52 93.24	93.52 93.30	93.31 93.05	43.13 93.1b	81714	
- (0,074	L
- 1	Three Mth Euromark Previous open interest 1163154	Jun 97 Sep 47	96.68	96.70 96.80	96.55	95.68 95.57	21715 26354	13
ì	Three Mth Eurolira	Jun 47	92,74	92.90	RETA	92.77	Jan 1	1 3
ł	Previous open interest: 2420tm	Sep 47	92.96	93.05	92.90	93.02	33097	13
:	Three Mth Euroven	Sep 97				94.20	6	Ιſ
		Dec 47	M 05	49,05	99,05	91,05	1900	П
,	Three Mth Euroswiss	Jun 97	-L16	25.17	4411/9	94.12	6566	L
H	Previous open interest: #49b2	Sep 9?	90.13	96.14	98 Ob	MHUUM	3274	17
1	Three Mth ECU	Jun 97	95.67	45.b7	95.65	95.bb	1560	1 :
- {	Previous open intensit 10015	Sep 97 .	95,62	95.62	95,59	45,80	353	l i
: {	FTSE 100	Mar 97 .	4363.0	4377,0	1317.0	4338.0	21647	1 5
	Previous open interest: 75.374	Jun 97	1,443,0	44000	4336.5	4352.0	13219	Lä
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		Inance Hse						1 :
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Н	Treasury Bills (DiskBuy: 2 mth 5	"m: 3 min 5	"⊳ . Sell	: 2 mm::	5~a:3 f	Mih: 9°m	•	3
١,	i mth	2 mtb	_	mith	6 zni		12 mi h	5
١	Prime Bank Bills (Dist: 6-5"			6'c-6'a	Direct	_		15
١	Sterling Money Rates 6'+6' Interbank: 6'+6'			6'-6'-		6'-	aro"=	ľ
1	Interbank: 6'-6' Overnight: open 5" to close 6.	· 6'm	Gra	b'-6'.	o.	třa	blefi st s	l٢
١	•							Н
- 1	Local Authority Deps: Sterling CDe: 6'm		/a	6'-6'-	6°u-	b"u □'.	b"= b"e-b's	Į L
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1							-	,
	Dollar CDn 5.4	2 n	14	5.52		.70	6.02	j a
		2 n	14				-	4
	Building Society CD: 6'46'	2 11	la Ne	5.52 Metre	9°-	5,70 67±	6.02 6'-0'-	4 4 4 4
	Dollar CDn 5.4	2 11	la Ne	5.52 Metre	9°-	5,70 67±	6.02	4
	Bollding Society CDc 9'ce6'	MONE	/a / DEF	5.52 metre POST	rs (%	5.70 6-	6.02 6'-0'-	4 4 4 4
	Dollar CDn 5.4 Building Society CDc 5.4 EUROPEAN Currency 7 day	MONEY	DEF	5.52 Metric POST	rs (%	5,70 6	6.02 6'=0'.	A A A B B B B B B
	Dollar CDu 5.4 Building Society CDc 90-69 EUROPEAN 1 Currency 7 day Dollar: 97-5 Drubchessark: 37-34	MONE	DEF	5.52 metre POST	FS (%	5,70 6 0)	6.02 6'-0'-	A A A B B B B B B
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	Dollar CDu S.4 Building Society CDc 84-66 EUROPEAN Currency 7 day Dollar: 57-5 Deubehemarie: 37-34 French France: 34-34 Swiss France: 34-34 Yess 24-14	2 11 64-6 MONEY mb 54-55 54-55 54-55 15-65 15-65	/ DEF	5.50 Months POSI math 57-55 37-37 37-37 17-45 18-45	69- 6 mi 9 c 3 mi 1 m	(70 6) h	6.02 6'-0's Call 5-4 3-2's 3-2's 2'-1's	
	Dollar CDu 5.4 Building Society CDc 84-66 EUROPEAN Currency 7 day Dollar: 57-5 Deubehemarie 31-54 French Franc: 58-35 Swiss Franc: 2-14 Yes: 2-15 GOLD/PRECIO	MONEY i min 50-5 50-3 1"-1" US ME	TALS	POSITION AND ADDRESS OF THE POSITION AND ADDRESS OF T	6 mi 9 c 2 c 1 c	(70 6 6) 0 0 7 7 1 1	6.02 6'-0's Call 5-4 3-2's 3-2's 2'-1's	
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	Dollar CDu Building Society CDc EUROPEAN Currency 7 day Dollar: 57-5 Deubschemark: 37-3 French Franc: 38-3 Swiss Franc: 2-1 Yes: 2-1 GOLD/PRECIO Building: Open \$348.85-349.15 Law: \$348.03-30.50 AN Krugerrand: \$347.75-350.75 (2.21) Platinum: \$377.25 (1.236.65) Silve STERLING SPO Miss Rates for March 19 Ras	US ME 05-219.75) 07-219.75) 07-219.75) 07-219.75) 07-219.75) 07-219.75)	TALS	POSI meth Sessi 34-34 34-34 Meth (Bai High: 8 1: \$340,10	69. 6 mil 59 e 30 e 17. 17. 18. 3349.40:5	(70 67 67 67 67 67 67 67 67 67 67 67 67 67	6.00 69-00 Call 5-4 3-27- 3-27- 2-19-11-par	
	Dollar CDu Building Society CDc Building Society CDc EUROPEAN Currency 7 day Dollar: 54-5 Prench Franc: 37-5 French Franc: 21-3 Swiss Franc: 21-3 Yes: 21-3 GOLD/PRECIO Building: Open \$348.85-349.15 Law: \$348.00-348.50 AN Krugerrand: \$347.75-350.75 (2217. Platinum: \$377.25 (1236.65) Silve STERLING SPO Miss Rates for March 19 Amsterdam	WONEY mob 50-5 50-3 50-3 17 -11 17 17 17 17 17 1	TALS	POSITION AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AN	FS (%) 6 mi 5 red & 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	(70 6°	6.00 69-05 69-05 5-4 325 325 2-15 1-par	
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	Dollar CDu S.4	US ME US ME 1 and 1 and 2 an	TALS	Posti multiple: Sup	69. 6 mi 57 e 73 e 114 1 month 14-9p 1-9p 1-9p	(70 6°- 6°- 6°- 6°- 6°- 6°- 6°- 6°- 6°- 6°-	6.00 69-05 69-05 5-4 3-25 5-25 1-par 1-par 0-33pr 1-40pr 7-10pr	
	Dollar CDn S.4	US ME 1 mb 57-57 57-37 57-39 17-617 17-67 17	7 DES	5.53 Mr. 67 c POSI muth 57-57 37-37 37-37 17-7 18-18 High: 5 18-5349 Palladia WAR 19-6 1	69. (9%) 6 mil 57 e	(70 6 - 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	6.00 69-04 5-4 3-2- 3-2- 3-2- 1-par 1-par 1-par 1-2-pr 1-10pr 1-10pr 1-10pr 1-10pr 1-10pr 1-10pr 1-10pr	
	Dollar CDu S.4	US ME WONEY math 54-55 54-37 57-37 17-11 68-22 68-23 63-33	7 DEF 7 DEF	5.52 Mree'c POSI math 5/-5/3 3/-3/3 3/-3/3 1/-6/a 1/-6	69. 6 mi 57 e 37 e 17 18 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19	(70 6°	6.00 69-04 5-4 324 324 2-14 1-par 1-par 2-10pr 2-2pr 90-4st	
	Dollar CDu S.4	US ME US ME 1 mob 52-55 52-37 11 mob 65-52-38	7 DEF 7 DEF 7 DEF 7 DEF 7 DEF 7 JULY 250 1 JULY 250 2 J	5.52 Mree'c POSI math 57-5's 37-3's 37-3's 17-6's 17-6's 17-6's 18-8's 18-9	6% (%) 6 mi 5 (%) 7 mi 1	(70 6 - 1) (70 6 - 1)	6.00 69-04 5-4 3-2- 3-2- 2-14 1-par 1-par 1-par 1-par 2-2-pr 0-13pr 1-par 2-2-pr 1-par 2-2-pr 1-par 2-2-pr	
	Dollar CDu	US ME WONEY I made 51-55 52-37 57-59 17-617 62-53-82,70 63-53-	7ALS 349.30 PM 1239.30 PM 1239.30 1353.55.4 1244.10 10182-1.00 10846-2.84 10.21-20 1082-2.26 103-2.26 1082-2.26 1082-2.26	5.52 Mr. 676 POSI I math 5°-5's 3'-3's 3'-3's (Bai High: 5 1: \$349.11 Palladia WARI Palladia WARI 1: 50 1:	69. 6 mi 5 e 7 3 e 1 1 monta 1 monta 1 monta 1 monta 1 monta 1 monta 2 - 0 2 - 0 2 - 0 2 - 0 2 - 0 2 - 0 2 - 0 2 - 0 2 - 0 2 - 0 3 - 0 3 - 0 3 - 0 4 - 0 5 - 1 5 - 1 6 mi 6 mi 7 - 0 6 m	(70 6°- 6°- 6°- 6°- 7°- 8°- 8°- 8°- 8°- 8°- 8°- 8°- 8°- 8°- 8	6.00 69-04 5-4 3-24 5-25 7-25 1-par 1-pa 1-pa 1-pa 1-pa 1-pa 1-pa 1-pa 1-pa	
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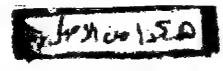
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CITY DIARY

Its good to talk tax treatment

JUST when the Inland Revenue thought the fuss over Michael Allcock had subsided comes news that a TV company is planning a drama "loosely based" on the crooked tax inspec-tor's exploits.

ABTV, maker of The Wimbledon Poisoner. is researching a fictional version of the steamy tale, aimed at the BBC or Channel 4. The lead role has not yet been lined up it seems, but now that Bob Hoskins has cut his ties with BT...

An inspector calls

MEANWHILE, an equally surreal saga at the Revenue has come to the attention of the House of Commons. The Select Committee on Public Accounts is looking into a tip-off claiming cash is being wasted in a witch hunt at the Revenue solicitor's office. Staff are being investigated to see who penned a pair of "malicious" anonymous memos. They included an attack on office head, Brian Cleave, alleged to have worn trousers that were too short. The Revenue insists other "nastler" claims merited the shake-down.



Knight watch

ANGELA KNIGHT, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, was taken to lunch by her team yesterday. Eleven headed to the press gallery restaurant for what a fellow diner referred to as a "thoroughly boozy" end-of-term celebration. To show their appreciation, they all chipped in and sent Ms Knight away with a hardback copy of Yes Minister, signed by all the gang.

Diplomatic dip

WHEN word reached Mike Delaney that the wife of the British ambassador in Paris was looking to promote foods from her homeland, he rustled up samples of his own-recipe mustard tout de suite. So enamoured was Lady Sylvia Jay with the pungent condiment that she put in a bulk order, along with a special request for customised labels to be emblazoned "British Embassy Mustard".

Hired hand

FROM words to whisks. Charles Skinner is changing jobs. On April Fool's Day, he will move from editor of Management Today to become chief executive of Brandon Hire, the tool and catering equipment hire company. Before journalism, when Skinner was working at 3i, he advised John Laycock. current chief executive of Brandon Hire and soon to be chairman, on selling his business Jay Fastners.

MORAG PRESTON

ony Blair first sprang to the public's attention when he invented the famously succinct policy that Labour would be tough on crime and tough on the causes of crime. If Labour wins the election, we shall eventually discover whether this encapsulated a profound insight or was just a pragmatic soundbite. It will certainly not

be an easy policy to implement.

Whoever wins the election, the great issue of public finance will be the same. There is a democratic consensus that public spending and taxation should not rise much above the current 40 per cent of national income. If growth of labour-intensive public services such as health and education are even to keep pace with the economy, let alone grow faster, spending elsewhere has to be cut.

instead, the growth of poverty since the industrial shake-out of the early 1980s has sidelined an ever larger percentage of national income in means-tested social security payments, putting desirable public services under constant pressure. Some £50 billion a year, nearly one fifteenth of national income, is spent relieving poverty and the indignities it brings. The key is to convert as much of this as possible into areas that cut poverty, instead of relieving it,

or remove the indignity from low incomes. Given a few variations round the edges, the war against poverty is much the same as Labour's intended assault on the causes of crime. Most other underlying causes, such as family break-up, are easier for wellmeaning politicians to make worse than to repair. So the key to fiscal policy is also the

Tough on spending and tough on the causes of spending

key to law and order policy. If governments switched taxes and family allowances around a bit, they could start set foot on this virtuous circle of falling poverty and welfare spending without painful cuts. In a sensible world, no-one receiving means-tested benefits would at the same time pay income tax. Neither Labour nor Tories seem prepared to raise marginal tax rates higher up the income scale to achieve this. As the churches have discovered, it is also now deemed politically incorrect to give extra tax allowances to one-earner families, who make up most of the working poor.

Labour has two different wheezes. The minimum wage, though endorsed by Mr Blair, looks a rare relic of the old party programme. It is likely to be set so low that it offers only limited help to poor families but also carries little threat to low-wage employment. No breakthrough there.

New Labour's centrepiece is a "tempo-rary" new tax on utilities to act as a sort of up-front float for the war on poverty. This cash would be used to train more young people for an economy that has lost millions of unskilled male jobs. By the time it has run out, Labour hopes, a generation of potential



unemployed will be converted from the dead end of poverty to the mainstream of tax-payers, starting the virtuous circle. If this works, the benefits to all taxpayers would be so great that the utility tax (though not its sanctimonious overtones) could be a price well worth paying. But this is a long shot. The chances of the programme paying for itself in lower welfare payments by the end of the coming Parliament look small.

Spending dilemmas are therefore likely to remain. Nowhere will they be sharper than in the fight against crime and the threat of

nity on the poor than anything else. The training programmes financed by the utility tax should take some frustrated dead-enders off the streets even if they do not pay for themselves, but will not quickly do much about the causes of crime.

The main emphasis will therefore have to be on being tough on crime. That is becoming ever more expensive. Locking up more regular lawbreakers for longer appears to be effective at cutting crime in the short run, by deterring others or, more clearly, be keeping criminals out of circula-tion. In Britain, crime rates accelerated sharply when governments tried to save money and souls by avoiding imprisonment if at all possible. In America, crime fell, albeit from a higher base, when public pressure forced more and longer imprisonment. In Britain, reported crime has edged down again ever since tougher penal policies came in.

Tory spending estimates allow for extra prison numbers and prison places. But most of the extra places would be provided by the private sector and there would still not be enough to cope with the latest watered-down

Crime Bill. The spending plans Labour would inherit also allow for 5,000 extra police constables. But that would surely not be enough to implement an alternative policy of "zero tolerance", hitting the petty street crimes and nuisance offences that bear hardest on poor people and which set the cultural background for the breakdown

of order and for more serious crimes.

The Home Office's Budger only accounts for about £7 billion a year out of total public spending of £315 billion. It would be easy to spend a little more here. Avoiding that, however, is what spending disciplines are all about. To achieve any radical impact on crime within five years, Labour would probanbaly have to think hard about the key intermediate cause of street crime and burglary: financing drug use. Yet the main parties have stayed their hand on this as thirdly as on property union. stoically as on monetary union.

There were 115,000 actual drug seizures

last year, a record as usual. More than 90 per cent were cannabis or amphetamines. Most offenders were merely cautioned, only 8 per cent imprisoned. The drug problem is not being seriously tackled and soft drug use is not subject to "zero tolerance". The laws of supply and demand ensure that the drug market remains healthy.

Given Gordon Brown's fiscal edicts, Labour crime battlers would have to decide whether to show zero tolerance to drugs, as a lever to cut other crimes, or to legalise soft drugs in order to cut their price and cut crime that way. When the debate comes, cash will doubtless not figure.

Krupp v Thyssen is an attack on cosy corporatism, says Oliver August

Bid battle with Clausewitzian echoes

asserted that war is the continuation of means. The 19th century German thinker concentrated on warfare involving knives, guns and spears. But his theory can easily be applied to industrial takeover battles.

The weapons wielded in the City are order books and press releases but the strategies to achieve a shift in power are the same. Bankers and advisers are trying to outflank each other as if they were relighting the Napoleonic wars.

Yet the current takeover battle in the steel sector of Germany is a rarity. Krupp has made a hostile £5 billion bid for its rival Thyssen, which could create one of the world's largest steel producers, with 18 million tonnes of annual

The two companies are the backbone of German steel production in the Ruhr valley and among the most important employers in the region. But they are notoriously inefficient and overstaffed. A merger has been talked about for the last decade and advocated by analysts for even longer.

If the two companies were British, the bid announcement would have been greeted with relief. Shareholders would long have demanded such a move. Not so in Germany. where takeovers are anathema to the business culture. Production was disrupted immediately at Thyssen, bosses were petted with eggs and the national media said that the corporate raiders were bent on wanton destruction of productive assets. The Frankfurter Rundschau newspaper claimed that the merger was "a game of Monopoly of a size and consequence that has never before been played out

in German industrial history". Foreign industrialists are always puzzled that there is no word for shareholder value in German, which otherwise contains long words for even the most irrelevant concept. In the cosy corporatism of postwar Germany, takeover bids are the commercial equivalent of turning up to a dinner party



Steelworkers from the Thyssen plant in Duisburg take to the streets yesterday in protest at the proposed takeover by Krupp-Hoesch

intent on running off with the host's spouse.

Where the Anglo-American culture hails aggressive bar-gaining and undisputed success — whether in business or in sport - Germans emphasise cooperation and compromise. These values dominate, on the shapfloor and in the boardroom.

German workers in all but the smallest companies have the right, through representatives, to interfere in the running of their company. Managers will go out of their way to accommodate employees, who make liberal use of their right to strike if their wishes are ignored for long. In private, managers often complain that co-operation can deteriorate into coercion.

A corporatist attitude also pervades among shareholders. Most companies are owned by banks or other industrial companies rather than private individuals. There are two reasons for this. First, few people have private pensions, hence pension funds are not a major player on the stock market. Secondly, the managers of listed companies are trying to protect their company — and hence their own jobs — against takeovers by engaging in mutual shareholding agreements with their rivals. They are assisted by the hanks, who believe that crossholdings are good for growth because they avoid de-

stabilising takeovers. The origins of this static system can be found in the trauma that Germany suffered in the aftermath of Nazism. When the 1,000-year reich was cut short after 12 years in 1945, many Germans blamed profiteering industri-alists for supplying Hitler with guns and tanks without asking any questions.

n the new Germany, they would be tightly bound. Where bosses wanted to make mass sackings they would have to ask for permission first to avoid a repetition of the record unemployment of the 1930s that helped to bring Hitler to power.

The more enlightened industrial leaders are now waking up to the fact that Germany's political trauma is economic harm.

While Germany was catching up with America during the Fifties and Sixties the compromise culture worked well because few hard decisions had to be made. The economy was booming and there was enough for everyone.

But not anymore. German unemployment is again at 1930s levels. Yet the majority of voters still resists the conclusion that corporatism is the cause of the problem, not the solution. That is why Gerhard Cromme, chief executive of Krupp, has become a hate figure. "Where is the killer?" and "String him up!", Thyssen

workers chanted yesterday. Herr Cromme is one of the Clausewitzian foot soldiers using the takeover weapon to bring about political change. If he is successful then the mythical Sozialemarkiwirtschaft, or social market economy, may finally make way for a more dynamic form of capitalism. The political shock waves

from the Krupp-Thyssen bat-tle may be felt in the British Isles. Stakeholding, in which workers receive a stake in their company, is the guiding ideology of Tony Blair's Labour Party and is based on the German model.

But Labour's use Germany as a role model is looking increasingly odd given the cracks appearing on the country's economic façade. Will Hutton, in The State We Are In, said: "While there is always a tension between the need for adjustment in the market economy and the need

for continuity and commitment, the Germans ... have found ways of reconciling this tension successfully." Herr Cromme would cer-

tainly not agree. The situation has become so tense that his entirely sensible move is being riewed as a devious act. Rather than resolving tension, the German system is programmed to maintain continuity at almost any price.

But Herr Cromme has not won his fight yet. Many vested interests, from unions to politi-cians, will defend the so-called Rhine model of capitalism. He will come under intense political pressure to back down. Chancellor Kohl needs to push through further budget cuts to meet the Maastricht criteria for monetary union. The pain created by that will become unacceptable to the public if unemployment rises further.
With a general election next

year, the government will want to take few chances. And thanks to Germany's corporate system, politicians have a surprisingly large amount of influence over industry.

he ominous first signs of yet another compromise were visible yesterday. and Krupp agreed to talks on setting up a joint company, the state government of North Rhine-Westphalia said. The talks are expected to last eight days and if agreement is reached, the takeover may

become unnecessary. A state government spokes-man said: "Should the talks produce no result, then both sides would return to their original positions." The talks were arranged by Johannes Rau, Prime Minister of North Rhine-Westfalia, who had denounced Krupp's bid as remi-

niscent of the "Wild West". Analysts have pointed out that even if the takeover clears all domestic hurdles, there is still the European Commission. It made no official comment but EU sources said that the case would probably have to be examined under competition rules. The takeover would create the third-largest steel group in Europe in terms of output after British Steel and France's Usinor Sacilor SA.

The spokesman for Karel van Miert, the EU's competition commissioner, said: "We have not received anything from the Bundeskartellamt or the companies involved." But other sources thought Brussels would almost certainly have the power to investigate the bid because of both companies' significant sales outside Germany.

Such an overwhelming counter-attack from a power situated to the west of Germany would have been only too familiar to Clausewitz. In his time, the Prussian army had to yield to the force majeure of Napolean. But his theory stands nevertheless. Germany's corporate culture is under threat even if it manages to extinguish Krupp's bid.

BUSINESS LETTERS

A convergence compromise that meets national requirements on EMU

From the Director, Economic Research at SBC Warburg

Sir, Amidst all the talk of an EMU delay it is important to appreciate that Germany's economic data problem is a relative, not absolute one. In other words will 1997 German numbers be good enough relative to Italy's to justify the latter on January 1 1999.

Put another way the diplomatic conundrum is how to find the formula that allows Chancellor Kohl to reassure his electorate that Italy will not be "in" at the start of EMU but also permits Prime Minister Prodi to claim the opposite.

Does such a formula exist? The answer is yes.

At the spring 1998 assessment an announcement could be made that in 1999 there will be two formal start dates. January and July. The hard core (Germany, France. The Netherlands, Austria, Belgium, Luxembourg, Finland, (reland) could be invited to start on January 1, 1999. Those countries that had missed qualification on the basis of the 1997 data could be given an undertaking that their 1998 dats would be examined very early in 1999 (perhaps February-March). Provided the 1998

data demonstrated further

convergence those remaining member states could join EMU in July 1999.

Thus Chancellor Kohl could, during the March-October 1998 election period, look his voters in the eye and say that Italy was not "in" at the start and that fears of a soft euro were accordingly unfounded. Meanwhile Prodi could claim that Italy would be "in" by July 1999. During that January-July 1999 interim period, Italy and any other states in the same category, could have a non-voting seat on the new European Central Bank and a commitment by that body to intervene to

defend the euro-lira rate. To reinforce the credibility of this arrangement the Italian Government could undertake to honour all its lire debt obligations in euros.

Of course, no one involved in this intricate process could admit to this, or any other deal, yet. But should the politicians, to coin a phrase, converge on this compromise, EMU could start on time and be "wide" by the end of 1999. Yours faithfully. STEPHEN YORKE, Director, Economic Research, SBC Warburg.

I High Timber Street,

From the Minister for Trade, The Department of

Trade and Industry

Sir. As Minister for Trade, I am well aware of the concerns of Ian Campbell and others over the transfer of trade fair support to Sector Challenge. However, I believe that these concerns are misplaced.

The Government is fully committed to assisting businesses in attending trade fairs. The Sector Challenge programme expands the potential resources available for trade fairs.

seeking customers at trade fairs Obviously they must show value for money, but I share

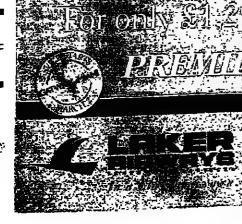
Provision of support for exporters

so, because they make an outstanding contribution. The quality of the bids received for Sector Challenge funds was excellent. Britain's exporters sold record amounts of goods overseas last year. Sector Challenge is there to help them to do even better. Yours faithfully,

Ian Campbell's view that they

will not find it difficult to do

ANTHONY NELSON, The Department of Trade and Industry. I Victoria Street, SWI.



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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Trinity International

PROFITS doubled at Trinity International Holdings, the regional newspaper publisher, in the year to December

29. The contribution of titles bought from The Thomson

Corporation in January last year helped to lift pre-tax profit 104 per cent to £56.2 million, from £27.5 million.

Exceptional items included a £5.7 million profit on the

sale of Trinity's Canadian publishing operations and a

£2.4 million charge for redundancies and restructuring.

from Thomson, rising 98 per cent to £333 million (£168

million). The operating margin rose to 18.9 per cent (16.4 per

cent). Earnings per share were 28.3p (21.5p), excluding the

Canadian disposal. The dividend rises to 11.8p (10.7p), with

a final 8.20 due on May 2. Philip Graf, chief executive, said

that the current year had started well, while the future of the

Share price set at CAT

CAMBRIDGE ANTIBODY TECHNOLOGY, a specialist in

monoclonal antibodies, has priced its shares at 500p, which will value the enlarged company at £109 million when it

floats on the stock market. CAT is raising 538 million from a

141 million placing of 8.25 million shares. David Chiswell, the company's chief executive, said CAT was "greatly encouraged by the enthusiasm" from institutional investors. First dealings in the shares will be on March 25.

Clydeport's turnover hit

CLYDEPORT, the privatised port services company with operations at Glasgow. Greenock and Hunterston, suffered a setback in 1996 because of volatility in trade of imported coal

from Colombia and South Africa, imported animal feed and forestry products. Pre-tax profits were static at £5.3 million on turnover down to £17.45 million, from £18.18 million. The total dividend rises to 4.8p, from 4.4p, with a final 3.3p.; Earnings per share were 13.59p (13.34p).

Xenova in Zeneca link

SHARES in Xenova jumped 65p. to 420p, yesterday after the

drug development company announced a collaboration with

Zeneca, the big pharmaceuticals group. Zeneca will screen

Xenova's "libraries" of natural compounds prepared from

plant, fungal and microbial sources in search of potential new

drugs. Zeneca will have exclusive rights to the products, but

Xenova will receive milestone payments and royalties. Xenova also reported pre-tax losses for 1996 of £7.8 million (£8 million).

US division was still under review.

Turnover was also boosted by the £327 million acquisition

New titles help lift

High taxes eat into Exco profit

Exco, the money broker, yesterday announced a slight decrease in pre-tax profit in 1996 to £18.2 million, from £18.3 million. But after an unusually high tax charge, post-tax profit fell more heavily to £8.5 million. from £11.1 million.

Volumes had declined after March 1996, putting pressure on commissions. although there was a small recovery in October. David Hubbard, chairman, said trading in 1997 had so far given continued cause for caution. A final dividend of 3p is to be paid on May 5. The dividend total of 4.5p for the year is half the 1995 figure.

Sibir Energy to join AIM

Sibir Energy, an oil exploration company based in Russia. Is joining the Alternative Investment Market next month valued at £35 million. The company. which is being spun off from Melrose Energy, has raised £3.5 million through a placing with Melrose's shareholders.

The company bought by Meirose for £19.7 million last June. It has a 20 per cent stake in Ezikhon, the Russian oil group, which entitles it to reserves of 178 million oil barrels. Dealings are ex-pected to begin on April 4.

Coutts deal

Courts Consulting Group is buying Murray Axmith & Associates, an outplacement consultant based in Toronto, in a deal worth up to C\$6 million (£2.75 million) in shares and



Crispin Davis, chief executive of Aegis, which yesterday reported profits 18 per cent higher at £39.6 million

Simon Engineering pushed £50.6m into red by charges

By Christine Buckley, industrial correspondent

SIMON ENGINEERING. the storage and process engi-neering group, fell £50.6 million into the red last year after one-off charges took their toll. But Michael Davies, chairman of Simon, whose man-

agement has been battling to achieve a turnround in the business since 1993, held out promises of a more prosperous future after the company's exit from industrial access equipment. He said: "With the sale of the industrial businesses of the Access Division for \$90 million. Simon Engineering will finally resolve the debt and balance-sheet issues that have prevented recovery.

Simon pulled out of the industrial parts of its access operation, through which it had become famous as the name on the hydraulic ladders of fire engines, last month with the sale of the division to Terex. The sale, which still hinges on regulatory approval, will enable the company to scale down its debt and to put its pro forma gearing at 43 per cent. Before the sale it had

stood at 117 per cent, and work to reduce the debt mountain of £85.2 million had been the priority for Simon.

The group had been strugling to service such a high level of debt while turning in annual profits in the region of £20 million. Now the company says that management resources that had been tied up in dealing with bankers and lenders can be released to focus on Simon's remaining

The sale is expected to be finalised next month, with a withdrawal from other peripheral parts of access equipent coming after completion. In the year to December 31. Simon took one-off charges

totalling £57.4 million, which included El7 million associated with its departure from access equipment: £7 million for the loss of goodwill with that business: a pension pre-payment of £14.9 million: £9.5 million for financial and legal restructuring; and £1 million in final settlement of the longrunning legal fight with Butte

Simon's remaining two businesses of storage and process engineering produced operating profits of £17.8 million last year, slightly up from the 1995 total of £17.5 million.

Aegis at the

double

in US deals

By Fraser Nelson

AEGIS, Europe's largest buyer of advertising space, is to

double its presence in Ameri-

ca with the purchase of two

media consultancies for up to

The company, which last October made its first foray

into the US with the acquisi-

tion of an advertising agency

based in New York, will

complete its US expansion

after buying ICG, an agency

based in Los Angeles. It is also

paying up to \$14 million for MMA, an advertising consul-

tancy that advises on market-

The company, of which Crispin Davis is chief execu-

tive, lifted pre-tax profits 18

per cent, to £39.6 million, last

year, on sales up 2 per cent, at £3.45 billion. The resumed

dividend is 0.6p per share, with a final 0.35p.

\$44 million

Mr Davies said that the divisions offered "good pros-pects for sustained growth". The bulk of these profits came from the storage arm which raised operating profits by 4.5 per cent to £11.6 million.

Although the company could pay no final dividend it said that it expected to pay one

No dividend at Try

THE upturn in construction helped Try Group to return to profit last year. The building contractor and housebuildermade pre-tax profits of £1.05 million for 1996, against a £4.3 million loss in 1995. Earnings of 1.52p a share compared with a 6.35p loss last time. There is, however, again no dividend. Try. which ended the year with net cash of £5.5 million, said that it sought to increase its land bank this year. House sales were currently slightly ahead of last year at higher average prices.

Carriers back in black

UNITED CARRIERS, the parcels and freight delivery. group, returned to the black in 1996, earning £2.1 million before tax, compared with losses of £1.9 million in 1995. The company said that the turnround reflected higher volumes, particularly in the second half, and cost control. Turnover rose to £136 million, from £127.47 million. Earnings per share of 5.3p compared with a 5.6p loss per share previously. The total dividend rises to 3.4p, from 3.2p, with a 1.8p final.

Bowthorpe plans closures

BY MARTIN BARROW

BOWTHORPE, the electronics and electrical group, reported a fall in pre-tax profits to £72.86 million in 1996, from £77.46 million, after charging almost £8.5 million against restructuring.

The company is to close three businesses in its data acquisition and environmental sectors, with the likely loss of about 100 jobs. Further closures and the merger of some smaller businesses has not been ruled out.

The restructuring follows a strategic review by Nicholas Brookes, chief executive. Anthony Vice, chairman, said Bowthorpe was emerging "as a fitter and refocused group." In the year to December 31

operating profits rose to £81.7 million (£76.1 million) on turnover that rose to £524.85 million (£470.5 million). There

was significant growth in America, driven by automotive and telecommunications, but group profits were held back by weakness of the French and German economies. There was a £1.3 million loss on currency translation, compared with a

£2 million gain previously. Earnings fell to 20.88p share (23p), but the total dividend is lifted to 10.17p (9.5p). with a final 6.96p. The shares rose 12½p to 40lp.

Digital script at Television BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

TERRY BATE, chief executive of Television Corporation, said yesterday that the company would work hard this year to take advantage of the arrival of digital television. The TV production company aims to raise capital expenditure to invest in digital production and post-pro-

duction facilities. The company recorded

having recently added a digi-tal edit suite. profits of £3.1 million in its first full year as a listed The Sunset and Vine procompany. Turnover was £25.1

duction facilities, merged last million and the company year, won a contract for reported earnings per share of Channel Five programming. Visions, the outside broad-12p. Its shares rose op to a gh of 1985p. Television Corp said that all caster, reversed losses in 1995, four divisions improved profitability. Bookings at the having won contracts with Sky Sports.

Net debt fell to £470,000 (£1.7 million). A final dividend of 2p, makes a 3p total, payable on May 6.

ACCOUNTANCY

Beware the two-pronged attack

Ian Barlow tells companies to

prepare to face closer scrutiny

from the Revenue's inspectors

he "Spend to Save" initiative, the Chancellor's big Budget idea, comes into force on April 1. The inland Revenue, the Department of Social Security and Customs and Excise will endeavour to deliver his target of an extra £6.7 billion tax take.

The Revenue's share of this bonanza involves deploying 2.000 additional staff over a three-year period at a cost of £190 million, with the aim of collecting an additional £2 billion in tax. As well as reassigning trained inspectors of taxes to these duties, the department is recruiting some 40 accountants to specialise in investigation work, doubling the existing resource. Nonetheless. the key elements of the team will be in place by the end of

this month. An investigation is far removed from the approach adopted in the agreement of tax liabilities in the past. Substantial costs can be involved. which the taxpayer will have to bear, and significant management time - perhaps extending over years - can be

absorbed by it. is the collection of an additional £2 billion feasible? In the tax profession, we believe it is a tall order. Since 1992, Revenue investigation work has pro-

Technical delay

and a salary of £150,000 on

offer, no one has come forward

to take the post. However,

rumour is rife above the

chimneys at Moorgate Place -

may soon end

duced receipts of around £1.7 billion annually. An increase of 40 per cent in the annual take will be difficult to achieve, even with additional manpower, given that the new staff will have to be recruited and trained, and that large investigations take time to reach a conclusion. More pertinently, it is simply

not true that massive amounts of rax are lost to the Treasury through artificial avoidance schemes. January's muchincreased government revenue figures reflect the cyclical nature of tax revenue. Most of tax advisers' work is involved with preventing clients being unfairdamaged by spurious tax charges arising from normal commercial transactions, rather than the off-the-wall tax planning often portrayed. The Revenue's explicit attempt to blur the distinction between legal tax avoidance and illegal

tax evasion is regrettable. Nevertheless, as the centrepiece of the Chancellor's Budget strategy, Spend to Save is for real. Larger companies are certain to be the main focus of the Revenue's attention, particularly those with low effective

Half of all corporation tax receipts are collected from little more than 400 companies, so



Ian Barlow says an extra £2 billion tax is a tall order

clearly it makes sense for the Revenue to concentrate their attentions in this area. Companies with substantial international involvement are also vulnerable, because of the scope for dispute on transfer pricing issues: so also are companies regarded as having used aggressive (or even not so aggressive) tax planning techques in the past.

Companies in the financial sector are also thought to be at risk. Even so, to raise this much money it is inevitable that every branch and district of the Revenue will be under pressure to increase its take.

The Revenue will be developing computer-based systems to select its most suitable targets for investigation. Benchmarking, the process of comparing companies with competitors, will be the basis of its approach. KPMG has responded to this by developing its own analytical model, which weighs companies' perforstandards to identify those vulnerable to attack.

Molinare post-production

and transmission businesses

are up 45 per cent in the first

part of this year, the facility

This takes into account four specific risk factors: the tax compliance history, public information on the company's activities, accounts issues, and membership of any of the Revenue's known target categories. Companies will need this information if they are to keep one step ahead.

What action can companies take? They face attack from two directions. The first concerns process. The sheer scale of many organisations makes it difficult to establish precisely the information required for tax purposes, which is often quite distinct from the needs of

commercial accounting. The second issue concerns handling the Revenue's tougher investigatory stance. Companies will have to examine the robustness of their processes. They need to cover not only the treatment of routine transactions, but also the approach taken to one-off events such as business acquisitions and disposals. Many stand-alone tax departments may be vulnerable, partly because many have

been downsized. The Chancellor is "spending to save". Companies, also, need to be spending now to bring their tax systems up to the mark, if they are to save the potentially enormous costs of an Inland Revenue investigation at a later date.

lan Barlow is UK Head of

them even have an agreement that one provides the other with a bottle of best malt whisky at the end of the football season. Who does the providing depends on the perfor-mance of Partick Thistle and Falkirk.

But behind the charm lies the toughness. You do not manage to reform a whole range of financial reporting rules through which the finance directors of some of the country's finest companies had been managing to drive a coach and horses on the basis of a good repertoire of jokes and a pleasant manner. Sir David's secret lies in the combination of

most accountants and he is, to most in the largest accountancy firms, an outsider. That combination allows him to note things that those who are more dependent on the culture of the Bix Six would rather not. And it allows him to refute the arguments of others in a logical way. Much of this comes from his training, his early career and his mentors, it is interesting that the people and institutions he cites as his main influences are all of the Establishment - of which he is flercely

BUILDING MATERIALS

The first mentor is David Flint, with whom the young Tweedie went to train in the late 1960s at Mann Judd in Glasgow. Flint was already straddling two worlds. He was also Professor of Accountancy at Glasgow University, a post he held for more than 20 years. Sir David recalls an initial dispute over cash. Tweedie, on the basis of both degree and doctorate, wanted the best of the going rates.

> post of Flint's personal assistant. Tweedie was already into a part of the accounting world that relied heavily on traditional skills, instincts and the Establishment — Flint was to become Scots ICA president in 1975 - but which, through the academic influence, looked at accounting within the context of the wider business world. The second influence he would cite is Geoff Whittington, these days Professor of Accounting at Cambridge but who was professor at Edinburgh University when Tweedie, freshly qualified, became a lecturer there.

ROBERT **BRUCE**

> whose first love was economics. Tweedie then moved into the heart of the Scots accounting establishment as technical director of the Scots ICA. After that, Bill Morrison, then senior partner of Thomson McLintock, brought him into the firm as national research partner. And when Morrison merged the firm into what became KPMG. Tweedie moved to London as

chairman of the newly invented Accounting Standards Board in 1990, his qualities for the job were complete. Beyond the deserved recognition for Sir David, the most important message is that clear thinking within the profession does not come from the tried and tested routes.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

IT SEEMS an age since the last expect an announcement contechnical director of the Engcerning a Big Six partner on hsh ICA cleared his desk and the verge of early retirement. decided to spend more of his Whether he will juggle with time watching cricket. In spite the poisoned chalice for long is of umpteen revisions of the job another question. descriptions, numerous expensive visits to the headhunters

Life partnership

A OUARTER of a century ago, the doyen of partnership taxation thought that he would write a book about it. As material for a bestseller it seemed unlikely. But Eddie Ray, then a partner in Spicer & Pegler. has seen his work mushroom through the years. Now we see the fifth edition of Ray: Partnership Taxation hitting the streets in loose-leaf fashion. Ray himself has long since taken himself off to a retirement of birdwatching in the Norfolk Broads, but a former

partner of his, Nigel Davey.

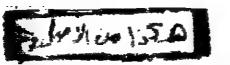
has co-written the book at what is now Deloitte & Touche. Legislation may be pending but Davey is convinced. "Partnerships will go on for ever," he said this week.

Andy experience

MORE rumours surround the imminent step-down of Andrew Likierman, head of the Government's accountancy

service and top accounting civil servant at the Treasury. With the report into the governance of the English ICA advocating a high-profile name at the top, some are wondering whether Likierman will pause only to collect his knighthood before taking over the running of the profession from a Moorgate Place eyrie. It would make his efforts to bring a semblance of accruals accounting into the Civil Ser-

vice seem easy by comparison. ROBERT BRUCE



Unconventional road leads Tweedie to top

TODAY it will be announced that Sir David Tweedle has won this year's Founding Societies' Centenary Award, the accountancy profession's equivalent of the Nobel prize. though without its money. The award orates the 1980 centenary of the English ICA and is made by the four accountancy societies that together founded the original institute. It is a combination of the traditions of the past leavened with a bit

of pragmatism from our own times. Sir David, chairman of the Accounting Standards Board, fits well with the pas winners, who have tended, like Sir Paul Girolami. of Glazo. Jim Thompson, the Bishop of Bath and Wells, and Lord Wakeham, to be people who have followed their own personalities and quirks to good effect. Sir David has great clarity of mind and an amiable disposition. It means that he is able to tell people that they are wrong without them taking too much offence.

Soon after he had got into his stride as chairman of the Accounting Standards Board. Sir David was the subject of a profile in The Scotsman. He still has one of the placards that the newspaper used to sell the story to the uneasy folk of Edinburgh framed on his office wall. "The Most Hated Accountant in Britain?". it

asked. Certainly not. No one

could hate Sir David. They found his views irritating. They could be annoyed when he wrongfoots them over the facts that lie behind some nonsensical piece of off-balance sheet flapdoodle or other. Even Ron Paterson, of Ernst & Young, who has put up with the most spirited opposition to the Tweedie line, would be

hard put to say he disliked him. The two of Currently, only goal difference separates them in the Scottish first division.

two factors. He is academically brighter than

critical when need be.

Flint initially rebuffed him - and then took him on at the rate Tweedie wanted but in the

Again, Whittington is an outsider to the profession

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ومراجع المستحد المستحد

Amanda Roberts introduces a five-page report on the refreshment vending industry

Poised for growth in an age of uncertainty

o most people, automatic vending means nothing more than a machine in the corner, dispensing drinks or snacks. In fact, that machine is in the front line of a rapidly developing industry: Britain's 330,000° vending machines bring in more than £1 billion in revenue per annum.

They offer British workers an ever wider range of refreshments — from a cup of coffee to a freshly fried portion of chips. And they offer British managements a costeffective way of keeping their staff fed and watered.

The industry, which meets in Manchester next month for Avex the association has set up several '97, its trade show,

was hit hard by the recession but is enjoying steady growth in the 1990s - 4 per cent a year, according to the latest figures.

David Ingram is chairman of its trade association, the Automatic Vending Association of Britain (AVAB). "Vending is still a relatively young industry," he

says, but it is developing into a mature state and over the past five years it has really started to take itself very seriously. It's a good job. too, because we are facing all sorts of issues such as legislation on packaging waste, water quality, machine hygiene, changes to the coinage and aspects of taxation.

Everyone involved in the industry will have to apply themselves to these issues and live up to any requirements laid down in order to survive and continue to serve our

"The biggest challenge we face is how we're going to cope with a single European currency as and be able to quantify itself. Without

millions if we don't get it right. We don't know how the currency change will affect the country, and because vending is a coin-led industry, the quality of the coinage

The mint masters throughout Europe work to different standards. Any variation in the coins produced will cause great problems. The AVAB has been involved in discussions with the UK Mint and has participated in discussions on a European level, but everything is still in the embryo stage '

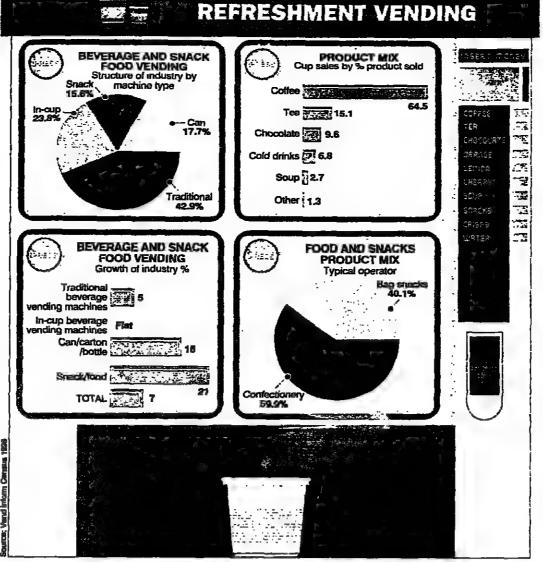
Members of the AVAB should be ready to face these challenges since committees to moni-

tor key issues, produce codes of practice and keep members informed of developments. The AVAB does not represent the whole industry. but it has some 300 members, made up manufacturers, components and commodity suppliers

and vending opera-Ingram: challenge tors. The membership includes the top 125 operating companies — those which provide the vending service to a site, including cleaning and refilling machines.

It is estimated that there are 200 much smaller companies in the UK which are outside AVAB membership, and the association is trying hard to recruit them. Three years ago, any attempt to

report on the size of the industry relied heavily on guesswork: there were no statistics available. The AVAB recognised that if the industry was to contribute effectively to the decision-making process on issues vital to its future, it needed to



meaningful statistics, this was virtually impossible.

The association devised a means of gathering information from its members without revealing a comoany's market share and sales. It appointed a City law firm, Vizards, to administer and audit the information to ensure this confidentiality. The result was the publication of the first Vend Inform Census in autumn 1994. The third edition of this annual survey was published

in October last year. The census has revealed trends within some sectors of the market. For instance, the figures published in October 1996 show major yearon-year growth in the number of machines selling cold beverages in cans, cartons or bottles (5.5 per cent) and the number of machines selling snacks - such as bags of crisps and bars of chocolate - and food (8.9 per cent).

Other significant patterns to have emerged include the growth of smaller "table top" machines serving freshly brewed beverages as opposed to those made from instant ingredients, and the growth of card-based or cashless payment systems.

"When we introduced industry training schemes to qualify our engineers and operators to NVQ level, we sought government subsidies," Mr Ingram says. "We were asked two questions - how many machines do you service and how many people are involved. At the time we didn't have the answers to either. We now know how many machines we have on sites in the UK, but we still don't know how many people are employed. This is a step for the future."

The need for vending services is growing as industry and commerce continue to identify areas where

"There is an increasing demand to contract out activities which are not core to a company's business and to replace staffed catering with a vending service.

"Working hours are also changing and more people want a 24-hour, seven-days-a-week service. Most importantly, fast response times for breakdowns are demanded and need to be addressed

There is also an emerging demand for the vending industry to get more involved in automatic retailing - for instance in shopping malls, where facilities for distress purchases can be catered for via a bank of vending machines."

Figures do not include the 150,000 cigarette vending machines estimated to be on sites throughout the UK.

The author is editor of AutoVending

From candyfloss to cameras

There is very little that cannot be sold from a vending machine

ONCE it was just drinks and snacks. Now there seems no limit as to what can be sold from a machine, writes Amanda Roberts

Disposable flower vases are being sold for £1 each in some hospitals. The product was designed by a regular hospital visitor and the vending machine has proved the ideal vehicle to sell it in. This has a double benefit - it overcomes the shortage of vases and saves the nurses a lot of washing-up.

Enthusiastic fishermen may already be familiar with the maggot vending machine. Supplied by a company called Magit, which also breeds the maggots, the machine vends worms and maggots as fish bait in tins. The live bait is kept at a carefully controlled temperature

too cold and it would freeze and die, too warm and the maggots would develop.

Most machines are sited on garage forecourts but Mag-it will consider any requests for machines. Some

are sited outside pet shops and owners of exotic pets use them to buy food. In the Norfolk Broads, many machines are outside pubs. The vending machine has even

been used to sell works of art. A glass-fronted snacks vendor was filled with pieces of fake wood inscribed with a poem as part of an art installation at Staffordshire University. These artistic bun-dles were sold for £2 each.

Hot and cold food is becoming commonplace, but at an exhibition in Paris last year, snacking initiatives were dominated by popcorn and candy-floss. Hot food options include burgers, lasagna, pitta and chips - cooked within the machine and served piping hot, with a choice of salt, ketchup or mayonnaise.

Reading glasses and sun-glasses have been sold through glass-fronted snack merchandisers. Video clubs have been run

totally automatically through machines with cards issued to members, which control everything from age-restricted rentals to pricing. Films and single use cameras are also vended -- and some even have a returns system. for the film to be taken away and developed.

How about an entirely auto-matic store? Seventy of these have already been supplied to sites throughout Europe and the concept is set to be launched in the UK next month. It will vend anything from eggs to fresh fruit, cleaning products to

cigarettes. Since its inception, the vending machine has been placed in some strange places and has been used to sell some unusual products. In Japan, machines vending all sorts of goods and goodies are to be found on almost every street corner, the floor of every department store (including the roof), every park (including that for the Imperial Palace) and every boardroom.

where something a little stronger 'Fishermen than water is often sold The machines have the

themselves can be found in some odd maggot spots. A garden centre machine...' North of England. for example, made a feature of its vending machine, installing it

inside an old red telephone box. A disused machine abandoned in a Buckinghamshire field prompted some curious glances recently from those too young to remember anything like it. It had stood outside a farm (long since converted into a domestic property) and had vended eggs by the half dozen. Once, before vandalism be-

came rife, it was common to see vending machines outside shops. Now they may be about to return to the high street. Mars confectionery will soon be available from 15ft "vending columns" in city centres. Each of these giant machines will hold 800 bars — quite a change from the old gobstopper dispenser.



of the vending closet

Amanda Roberts on the growth of big names on drinks machines

Retailers and product manufacturers worldwide are well aware of the power of the brand and that by advertising where a big brand is on offer. sales can be significantly increased. Vending, which is in many ways an extension of the retail industry, was slow to wake up to the potential of big brands, but once it did. progress was rapid.

Just a few years ago, most machines would feature a generic and often fairly insipid fascia panel with some sort of design, on a boring brown, grey or white cabinet machine. Today, machines are fully branded to promote the prod-uct on sale. The branding can cover the machine or be limited to a single panel or "decal" tie, the sticker by the selection panel that tells the user what particular brand of coffee or tea he is selecting). The vending machine is essentially one huge advertising panel.

The soft drinks manufacturers were the first to recognise the potential of branding machines and eventually, the rest of the industry started to follow suit. Nestle introduced a series of beverage machines which were branded top to toe with the retail style packaging of its Nescafe brand. Kraft Jacobs Suchard have done the same, featuring the red Kenco coffee jar. Cadbury brands up



Vending machines are now advertising opportunities

its Typhoo Tea; and McCain's has built on the strength of its name in frozen chips to brand up the new chip vendor, which serves a chip specially devel-

oped to vend. Development of branded vending in sectors other than the canned soft drinks was slow largely due to the reticence of brand owners to put their names to machines over which they had no control and

which may be serving a poor product. It is an indication of how quality has improved in the market and how perception of vending has changed that brand owners are now

Branding does work for vending. It gains the confidence of the consumer that the product which will be dis-

quite happy to put their names

to, and promote, the product

Brands that came out From holy water to hot soup

Colin Emmins traces the history of coin-in-the-slot food and drink

HERO of Alexandria designed the first known coinoperated vending machine, dispensing holy water from a covered urn, in 215BC. How much water the worshipper received was a matter of chance and Hero's idea lay dormant for 2,000 years.

pensed is one which they recognise and with which they

associate a certain quality. It

builds loyalty with the con-

sumer and increases sales.

Premier Beverages, which

supplies Cadbury's branded

hot chocolate drinks to the

vending industry, conducted a

case study at a busy site in

Warrington where the cater-

ing manager had decided to

replace the existing non-

branded hot chocolate drink

with Cadbury's. In three

weeks, chocolate sales rose 20

per cent, settling to an overall

15 per cent increase in sales

dustries is a supplier of

vending services which has

developed a series of branding

concepts geared to different

market sectors. Suites of ma-

chines are supplied in a fully

integrated system with the

company's own Gold Choices

brand featuring throughout.

Now market activity re-

volves around creating more

eye-catching ways of promot-

ing brands on machines.

State-of-the-art technology cre-

ates 3D and moving images,

and sophisticated printing

techniques improve definition,

Gone are the days when the

vending machine sat quietly in

the corner — now it shouts

about its presence, loudly!

graphics and colour.

he industry keeps

pushing the branding

concept into new ar-

eas. Springbank In-

over six months.

Automatic refreshment machines appeared next in Britain in Victorian times, when original patents included a coin-operated drinks dispenser and a mechanism for delivering biscuits and water.

Most early machines, however, supplied packets of chocolate and, later, chewing gum on the column-anddrawer principle still in use. The vending machine soon established itself at railway stations and spread to the high street, where refreshment could be obtained from outdoor machines when shops were shut. By 1939 most people were accustomed to coin-operated refreshment but the Second World War halted operations as manufacturers were diverted to war work and confectionery was rationed.

Britain after 1945, more versatile American machines became available, offering greater choice of foods: sand wiches, crisps and other packaged snacks. Vending liquid refreshment also be came more common. Machines vending packaged milk were popular during the Fifties, although inflation later halted the trade since the law decreed that milk be sold in standard

When vending resumed in

quantities and technology had yet to allow for multicoin vending.

HERO'S

HOLY WATER

DISPENSER

When the cap rises the water 2

In the Fifties, too, American hot-drink vending came to Britain. Electricity powered the new machines, heating the water and providing smoother activation of the coin mechanism. The hot drinks were made with powders. Powdered tea posed initial problems but soluble tea, coffee and milk eventually proved more acceptable.

Electrical power also enabled coin-operated machines to sell chilled drinks.

For this purpose soft drinks were prepared in advance in a sealed container which the vending machine had only to chill before dispensing. A second method involved mixing a concentrate with chilled, fizzy water inside the

tipped plate, sendir

when required. Other machines pioneered in America sold chilled, bottled soft drinks and later.

machine for dispensing

Annual sales of machines supplying snack foods and drinks doubled between 1965 and 1970 as the vending machine superseded the tea

trolley in the workplace. Further technology enabled hot and cold drinks to be served from the same machine. By 1970 more than 100,000 vending machines were said to be installed in firms throughout the UK. sales of hot drinks alone

totalling about £47 million. Later, the in-cup vending system let the supplier full individual cups with dry ingredients and stack and seal them before despatch to the vending site, with water added on site to dissolve the ingredients and provide the

drink required. The early Seventies con-fronted the industry with two major changes - decimal currency and value add-Decimalisation ed tax. demanded adjustment of equipment to handle the new comage; value added tax required fine price adjustments. The necessary changes encouraged makers to embrace the electronic revolution by installing additional features which the microprocessor could offer.

A new breed of vending machine offered more choice, more accurate detection of false coins and more flexible pricing. Refreshment machines went into more sites - leisure centres, hospitals, budget hotel chains, airports, motorway service stations, garage forecourts - so that the public now spends about £1 billion a year on vended refreshment

• The author's book Automatic Vending Machines is available from Shire Publications, 62.25.

All operator members of the trade association must achieve Quality Assured Status by next year

The campaign for higher standards concern by meeting cus-

Association of Britain (AVAB) began developing a standard, initially for operating companies (the firms responsible for cleaning and refilling machines) which would exert control over the way in which member companies provide their services, Amanda Roberts writes. The Quality Initiative

provides a method for setting, monitoring and maintaining quantifiable standards. It is specific to the vending industry and offers accreditation to qualifying firms.

Janette Gledhill, the director of the AVAB, says: "The Quality Initiative is a direct result of our determination to demonstrate the high standards to which member operating companies now conform. The focus of the initiative is on addressing and eliminating customer



Gledhill: determined

achieved Quality Assured Status and by January 1, 1998, it will become mandatory for all operators in membership. All operators have assessment books, but the association has budgeted for the eventuality that not all will achieve accreditation first time. All other full members of the AVAB — which includes

More than 50 per cent of

operator members have

manufacturers, commodity suppliers and distributors — will also have to act Quality Asssured Status by 2001. The AVAB has recruited a team of

quality co-ordinators whose task is to help companies through the accreditation process and then with carrying out an annual audit to ensure that standards are maintained. The first audits have been held and only minimal corrective action



Jay and Val Taylor of Carovale Supplies achieved Quality Initiative status

epared to end a company's membership if the audit reveals problems.

David Ingram, the national chairman of the AVAB, believes positive results are already being seen. Independent research shows an improvement in the customers' perception of quality.

The next step will be a book, which is being dubbed The Vending Bible, sched-

has been necessary, though the AVAB is used for launch next month. It will list about choosing a vending service.

Meanwhile one company, Springbank pendently assessed qualification for vendoperators, based on the NVQ structure. It believes the hotel and catering NVQ, which offers only level-one accreditation, is too simplistic.

QUALITY INITIATIVE IN ACTION

CAROVALE Supplies is a small local vending operating company based in Buntingford, Hertfordshire. It has been trading for 19 years and was one of the first six companies to achieve the AVAB Quality Initiative in April 1995.

The company approached the scheme in an unusual way by giving the responsibility for introducing the necessary procedures, documentation and training throughout the company to Jay Taylor, the son of company co-founder and director, Val Taylor.

Jay was just starting his year out from BA Honours sandwich course in financial studies at Wolverhampton University. During this time he had to complete a business-related project which would be assessed and contribute to the class of degree awarded. Choosing to introduce the Avab quality scheme a Carovale was a project which involved him in achieving a specific objective which would have a long-term benefit for

There are six main acctions to the Avab Duality Initiative

Contracts: a simple

services to the customer. Document control: concerned with the throughout the company.

Operations control: standardising methods to ensure staff work to the same ☐ Customer care: includes the introduc tion of a complaints procedure for customers and staff. □ Training: individual plans are neces

sary for each member of staff. ☐ Corrective action: ensures that complaints are followed up and problems

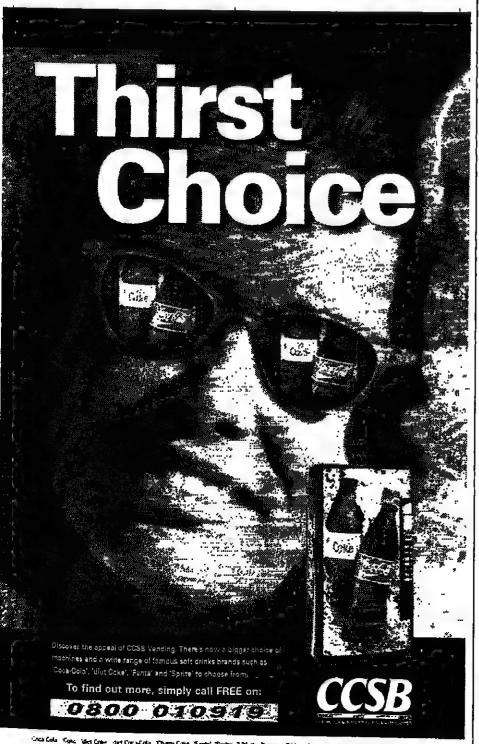
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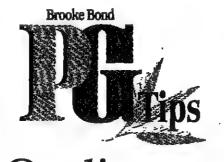
THE first task faced by Jay was to put together the necessary documentation, which involved writing procedures for all company functions and rewriting individual work instructions. The procedures then had to be implemented for all personnel, including new recruits and the company assessed by the Avab's quality co-ordinator. Carovale Supplies was successful, achieving Quality Assured Status on the first attempt in five

Now, two years later, Carovale Supplies is reaping the benefits. Val Taylor says: "Our intention was to ensure systematic and uniform working methods throughout the company which and also generate involvement from all

'We now feel that we have a system in place which is invaluable for the induction of new employees and also a sound framework which will sustain us for future growth."

Jay was awarded a first for his project.





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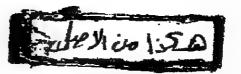
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Tony Minnis, managing director of Save A Cup, explains his company's recycling operation to David Bellamy

Tony turns in a cup winning performance

bar of chocolate you have just bought from the machine on Platform 3 is a temporary problem for you - you just find a bin and throw it away, But for the operator, it is a a challenge.

The European Union's packaging directive imposes an obligation on industry to recover or recycle at least half its packaging by the year 2001, and vending machine operators are going to find it much.
The British approach is to

encourage each industry sector to set up co-operatives for recovery and recycling. One of the most innovative of these is Save A Cup, the company set up by the hot-drinks vendors to recycle plastic cups.

Offices in the scheme have placed cup disposal bins shaped like an upturned mushroom next to every coffee machine. Empty cups are put upside down into a tube, allowing the excess liquid to drip into a reservoir. The cleaner empties the bin, storing the cups for collection.

The material is made into pellets which are then transformed into a range of promotional items such as rulers and . A shredder for plastic cups is

THE office may seem quiet

late at night, but these days

your vending machine could

be making a phone call. It

may even be on the radio,

unit which uses an electro-mechanical

relay system to register every purchase. The unit downloads the information via

a phone line or radio link to a remote

controller, perhaps hundreds of miles

away, running thousands of machines.

which machines should be visited first

The controller uses the dam to decide

Peter Brown writes.

P

STATE IN L

Chris Partridge reports on the campaign to make recycling part of the life of every office

launched next month at the

vending industry show Avex

'97 (see below). It costs £350.

The shredder is a box simi-

lar in size to the familiar paper

shredder, with a cup-sized

hole in the top. Once a drink

has been consumed the empty

cup is placed inside, where the

machine quietly slices it into flakes which fall into a bag.

delivery man for the vending

company, which holds all the

flaked plastic until there is

enough for Save A Cup to

Save A Cup as it can now

expand to cover the country

The benefits are substantial,

according to Mr Minnis. "We

get extremely good results

provided a scheme is intro-

duced proactively and com-

without buying more trucks.

everse delivery, as

the trade calls this

process, is a major

step forward for

collect and recycle.

The bags are collected by the

plus VAT and delivery.

coasters, filing trays, and even video cases for Boots. Although many firms operate the system successfully, it has several drawbacks, says the company's managing di-rector. Tony Minnis. "We cannot push Save A Cup into every area of the country because every new town adds to the cost per ton recovered," he says, "We tried using thirdparty collectors or local councils, but nothing we did

reduced the cost." The answer proved to be an adaptation of a familiar office machine: the shredder. Mr Minnis realised the potential when he was looking at the output of a machine that flaked cups into small chips. "I realised we got a two to one reduction in volume, which might help to reduce the cost of collection," he explains.

A prototype flaker was built and tested in various sites in Bristol, with such success that the scheme is going national.

staff," he says. "We get up to 69 per cent of cups back if it is done well, but this falls back to 50 per cent if not."

Mr Minnis believes that the shredder could transform Save A Cup's prospects of conforming with the EU directive. "I am very optimistic. The first year will be very slow as the operation and the distribution channels get into gear, but we are getting tremendous amounts of interest," he says.

One thing it will never do is make money. "Over the next few years the cost of operation will be reduced. If we are lucky with the price of polystyrene we could break even, but I doubt it," Mr Minnis says.

Gradually, the message is getting across. Even the organisers of marathons are looking at Save A Cup to help with the piles of plastic cups left in the street after the runners pass a drinks station. Instead of just throwing them away, the cups are bagged up and sent to the nearest Save A Cup participating company, from where they are sent on for recycling. The waste from a large half-marathon could end up as 1,000 plastic rulers, or 2.000 plantpots.

NORTH

EAST

The machine knows what you've bought Some machines are being fitted with a

the next day, and which products they

Rose Hadden, of GPT Telemetry. which makes the units, says they can save 20 per cent of operating costs by cutting out unnecessary visits. "You can organise your stock," she says. "The unit also tells you if the power has been cut off or the door opened."

Based in Liverpool, GPT links machines to phone lines, and offers a low-power radio hop if the nearest telephone is too far away.

Another firm, Paknet (part of Vodaphone), operates a telecommunications network for such devices. It's a radio-based service," says Mark Brunwin, senior marketing manager, "so there are no fixed wires. If you move the machine, the communications move with it. The system monitors temperature and power and tells you if the coin mechanism is jammed."





Cold drinks and hot potatoes

Avex '97: trailing great advances

A MEASURE of the growth of the refreshment vending industry is the success of its show, Avez 97, which has grown by 20 per cent since 1995. Europe's largest automatic vending exhibition, it will be held at Manchester's G-Mex Centre from April 8-10, Peter Brown writes.

The advances to be launched by the 135 exhibitors will include new cold chocolate and cold cappuccino drinks (from Premier Beverages): crisps with new flavours (KP Foods): table-top and coffee stations (Spengler); a huge seven-shelf vending machine (ABC Leisurel: a machine that uses varying water pressure instead of a mixing bowl (Wittenborg), and a "robotic" frozen-food merchandiser said to put the theatre into vending (Polyvend).

Tridine, of Essex has devel-

oped a hot-food vending machine called Dinah's Kitchen, which will supply the hungry with anything from Cajun chicken to beefburgers and jacket potatoes, followed by hot chacolate and syrup puddings. The food is said to be ready to eat in 40 seconds. The new "revolutionary"

Virgin branded can vender will also be on display from Vendcare Services, with machines supplied by Zanussi.

Associated products and services will range from water purification and data transfer to recycling and leasing. The show will also provide the launchpad for the new Save A Cup recycling scheme. Details: 01737 357 211.

Coinciding with the show for the first time this year will be the presentation by Sir Bernard Ingham of the industry's AVAB "Oscars".

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THE AREAS OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY ARE INTENDED SOLELY AS A GENERAL INDICATION OF THE GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF A COMPANY'S OPERATION

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Post Code: Automatic Vending Association of Britain Food and drink dispensers are a perpetual temptation to children. Amanda Roberts reviews the moves towards healthy meal breaks

Could this mean the end of the tuck shop?

has made real efforts over the past decade Playing an important part in this are the several codes of practice and the code of ethics to which the Automatic Vending Association of Britain (AVAB) expects its members to

At the nuts-and-bolts end. an AVAB technical handbook provides guidance and support on such issues as water hygiene, microbiological recommendations, testing of water treatment units. hygiene. machine operation, control of substances hazardous to health, routine testing for electrical safety and product

On the broader front,the code of ethics and the customer charter outline the way in which member companies

ness. The main requirement in the code of ethics is that members "supply high quality service and products to the public at all times" while the customer charter goes into more detail about service requirements. It forms "the ba-

sis for a continuing. satisfactory fair-trading relationship with customers" and covers such issues as service response, spare parts provision and value-for-money. A further code of practice

of vending in schools. Vending machines are now part of the catering offered at schools throughout the country and to a school's income, but they have not been welcomed with open arms. Parents and teachers are worried that such machines encourage children

he vending industry should carry out their busi- to eat more chocolate and crisps and buy sugary soft

> The AVAB has been working with the Schools Nutrition Action Groups, SNAGS, to devise a code of practice for vending in schools. SNAGS are school-based alliances in which staff, pupils and caterers work together to review and expand the overall range of food and drink provided through the tuck shop, vending machines, the midday meal, breakfasts and catering

at social functions.

The key points of the code of practice for vending in schools maintain that AVAB members have a responsibility to provide a choice of products. This should include, for instance, low-calorie drinks, decaffeinated coffee (where hot drinks are supplied), fresh fruit, lowfat crisps and nuts. Vending

tion but as one part of the total

The AVAB says it has had no complaints about the activities of member companies in school vending since the code of practice was introduced, although it often receives requests from schools for more Despite these initiatives,

however, vending packages offered to schools do not always include healthy op-tions. Some major soft-drinks manufacturers will offer free machines, strongly branded with their product, often in conjunction with a form of "sponsorship", which means that the site benefits financially from the machine place-

In return, the site is restricted to stocking the machine with products from that manufacturer, which may or may not include a strong portfolio of healthier drinks — sugar-free fruit juice, milk or flavoured waters. This is not an unusual

approach and the same package would probably be offered to other sites such as factories, leisure centres and airports. for instance, without anyone raising an eyebrow. In schools, of course, there are wider issues to consider.

Schools can always refuse these packages if they do not feel that they offer the appro-priate balance of refresh-

n his book The Road Ahead, Bill Gates fore-

sees the arrival of the

Pretzels. left, and pitta with healthy fillings can be vended at schools in response to parents' concern over junk food

options available, although the financial package may

The Dairy Industry Federation is starting to penetrate the schools market with machines vending milk in cartons with straws. In fact, the federation is behind a move to ensure that all schools have milk available, through machines or otherwise.

Flavoured milk is proving the most popular variety among children, although semi-skimmed milk is also offered, as well as fruit juices.

This is money we can save."

swipe cards or contactless

staff to use instead of money.

A swipe card or a microchin

holds a store of electronic

automatically debited as the

card is passed through a vending machine or till. But

ing yet another credit card?

cashless card can incorporate

other functions. When Win-

group, wanted to go cashless

at its headquarters in

Basingstoke it asked Quintus

Systems to come up with a

card which staff could use in

the company restaurant and

in place of their existing

security swipe cards.

ill employees take to add-

Possibly -- especially if the

Mr Barnes says.
The cashless

vending milk is the packaging. The carton with a straw is often perceived as a childish way of taking a drink by reenagers, who will refuse it in favour of a product in a can. This problem is being

With a little imagination, the product offered in a machine can be transformed. Deutsche Wurlitzer makes glassfronted snack merchandisers. It is not tied to any manufacturers of chocolates or snacks to feature their advertising. In

Plastic puts pressure on pennies

Cashless systems are growing fast. Stephen Hoare

with most glass-fronted snack merchandisers, can vend a much wider product range than they are usually asked to.

Deutsche Wurlitzer is sponsoring an initiative to introdure healthier snacks to school vending machines. The company is launching a recipe sheet offering ten healthy alternatives devised by Dr Jenny Poulter, a nutritionist.

The recipes are based on fieldwork from the Heart in the Mouth project, a year-long experiment in encouraging found that children will choose healthy snacks, provided they are packaged, marketed and priced correctly. Among the recipes which

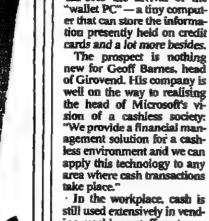
Deutsche Wurlitzer is introducing are garlic or onion pretzels and pittas filled with Swedish meatballs, Recipes list full nutritional information and contain less than 5g far and below 5g non-milk extrinsic sugar (the sort which damages teeth).

The recipes have been devised to enable any school

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still used extensively in vending machines, staff canteens, photo booths and photocopiers. But coins in the slot or money in the till make for complications. Machines have to be emptied and staff have to operate tills - money has to be counted and banked, "It costs 15 per cent of turnover to handle the cash involved in vending.

on the development of a multipurpose card comes in the form of plastic chips that can be issued to

This card stores credit

and makes cash obsolete More than 80 per cent of cashless cards incorporate multiple functions and marry double as access control. photo ID and personnel files. Companies can use the cashless cards to provide management information.

Mars Electronics, makers of payment systems for vending machines, have just taken the idea of the multicard one step further. Launched month, the firm's Multicard Smart is compatible with Mondex, one of a new generation of electronic cash cards being developed by the three leading creditcard companies. Mastercard.

Visa and American Express. By the turn of the century we will probably be familiar with the new E-cards under names such as Mondez, Visacash and Proton. Their sponsor's aim is to hold a major share of cash transactions by replacing money in people's wallets. Andy Matko, the Mars cashless marketing manager, says: "We are linking a public cash card to a closed site. And we are offering our customers

less system which will be cash card." Cashless systems now ac-

count for one in eight of all new vending machines .twice as many as three years director of VendePac, says: "Cashless is going to spread very fast. The thought of having to adapt machines yet again because of comage changes like the new 50p and the £2 coin is concentrating a

Mr Matko says: "We have seen the market for cashless double over the past four years right across Europe. Now that has to be signifithe vending industry which has only been growing at a rate of 3 to 4 per cent each year." Meanwhile Mr Barnes is taking a leaf out of Bill Gates's book. He has developed his own software application - Girovend for

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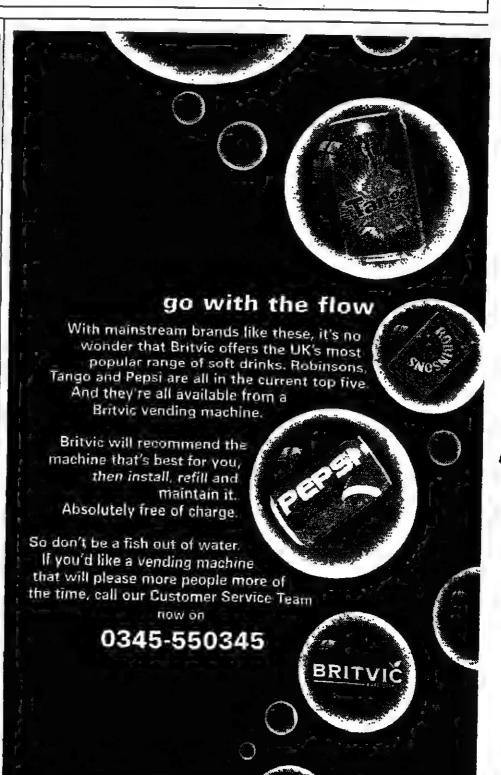
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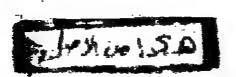
lasting is bel











Changes to currency are a headache for manufacturers of coin mechanisms, who have to be warned well in advance of any changes, says John Young

What a new coin really costs

n July 1 2002 the euro is due to be-come the only currency of the Euro-pean Union. If all goes according to plan, the pound, franc, mark and lira will be consigned to history. The inhabitants of this brave new world will have had just six months to accustom them-

selves to the new coins.

If the new European superstate fails to materialise. however, the Royal Mint and its counterparts across the Continent will have wasted three years working flat out to produce the countless billions of coins needed to service it.

This continuing uncertainty does not make life any easier for the manufacturers of coin boxes and vending machines. Every change in the shape, size, weight and composition of the coinage means that each machine has to be reprogrammed to accept the new and reject the old.

In Britain the new 50p and £2 coins will come into circula-

tion on September 1 and November 1 respectively this year. The Automatic Vending Association of Britain has estimated that switching to them will cost its members some £27 million.

Weighed against the great issues of national sovereignty and economic which the euro

debate encompasses, the interests of the vending industry may seem trivial. Any decision on a change of coinage

THE TIMES THURSDAY MARCH 20 1997

Treasury in consultation with the Royal Mint. Changes are usually made for convenience purposes; the present 50p coin, like the old copper coins of pre-decimalisation days, is considered cumbersome and its size out of

is a matter for national gov-

ernments, in Britain's case the

proportion to its value. But the vending industry is much more involved than is age long before the public, but its leaders are rounnely called For example, it is three years since senior staff at Mars Electronic International (MEI), makers of coin mechanisms, were invited to meet

officials from the Treasury

'Switching to the new British coins will cost the industry £27 million'

> and the Royal Mint to discuss the introduction of the new British coins. These were (and are) seen as a "dry run" for the introduction of the euro, due to go into production this summer regardless of which countries are prepared to meet the political deadline.

> The European Vending Association, the umbrella body for the various national associations, has lobbied for a oneyear transition period but now accepts that six months is the

national governments still fayour an overnight "big bang" changeover, as when Britain converted to a decimalised

Whether or not Britain joins the new currency, MEI is assuming that other countries, led by France and Germany, will do so. "If it

best it can hope for. Several

goes ahead, we will be pre-pared, says Steve Parkin. the company's European mar-keting manager. About 95 per cent of all the vending machines sold in Britain are fitted with MEI coin boxes. These electronic "brains", as Steve Green, the company's marketing manager, calls them, have

at rejecting coins that fail to measure up and supplying customers with change. Effective, but by no means infallible. "It would be wrong to suggest that we have yet

been able to develop a system

become increasingly proficient

which will reject all fraudulent ones," says Mr Green, Foreign coins can, and do, slip through the net, as do metal "slugs". The most difficult character-

istic for fraudsters to simulate is metal content, which is why bi-metallic coins have become increasingly popular since the introduction of the Italian 500 lira 20 years ago. The new £2 will be Britain's first bi-metallie coin. Fraud should in theory, become more difficult with the move towards a "cashless" economy.

The biggest headache for the industry remains the propensity of most countries - with the notable exceptions of the United States and Germany -to change their coinage at regular intervals. With the introduction of the new British 50p and £2 coins, MEI believes it has cracked the problem with its Cashflow Field Programmer, with which machines can be readjusted with in minutes instead of being returned to the factory to be



The new £2 coin, which goes into circulation on November I, is seen as a dry run for the euro

Buy or lease your coffee-maker?

Stephen Hoare on what a company should know before it gets a vending machine

cup, compared with 15-20p in

Contract operators such as

VendePac and ProVend will

supply a machine and a

service contract. Not tied to a

particular manufacturer, they

will find a make and model of

machine to suit customers'

Operators rarely make any-

the workplace.

needs.

stomach, then a workforce thrives on cups of coffee. Mainly leased by employers. Britain's 330,000 vending machines dispense 10 million hot drinks a year - 80 per cent of them coffee - and a fair bit of confectionery.

Janette Gledhill, director of AVAB, says: "It's a El billion consumer spend through the

Times

3

7

With so much at stake, businesses are getting choosy about their vending machines and are demanding value for money and the trend is towards branded drinks.

Keith Tuson, managing director of contract operator VendePac, says: "People are finding anonymous coffee less and less acceptable. The majority of drinks being sold through vending machines are now branded."

Part of the reason for this is the boom in vending machines in leisure clubs and public buildings. Mainly, these sell

thing on the supply of a machine — their profit comes from a three to five-year operating contract. The conbranded products for 40p a tract is usually based on a weekly management fee of, say, £25 per machine, the cost of servicing the machine, and

a variable charge according to the number of cups to cover the cost of ingredients. Beware of operators offering a "cup plan". This is a leasing plan similar to a discredited practice by which photocopiers were leased on a minimum

number of copies. Clients charged on the basis of 1,000 cups a week regardless of quantity consumed could find themselves considto the contracts committee of the Automatic Vending Association of Britain, which out-

lawed the practice a year ago. Should a company buy or lease? With leasing, the firm can set off all payments against corporation tax, whereas with a cash sale half the cost may be offset against tax, with an annual sum built in to the accounts for depreciation.

Mr Tuson says: "It depends on individual circumstances, but over a five-year contract I'd say the halance is just in favour of cash. Holding cash reserves is not going to earn much interest so companies might as well buy. But having said that, leasing is still

If a customer decides to go for leasing, a contract operator will introduce him to a leasing company who will finance the purchase of a machine someone such as Lloyds Bowmaker, BZW, or Angio

It is part of AVAB code to deal only with companies who are members of the Finance

> 'High volume makes a machine work

better'

Leasing Association (FLA). Dealing directly with the customer, the leasing com-pany will take the risk and finance the machine over a set period. Usually the contract onerator's service contract for the machine will be arranged over the same period, with a three or five-year lease mirrored by a three or five-year contract.

As a rule of thumb, operators recommend one machine per 65 staff. With an average individual consumption of three cups a day, they claim the best value comes from a machine that is doing 1,000 vends a week.

Mr Tuson says: "High volume makes a machine work harder and better. It's good for the industry and good for the client because he's maximising the use of the equipment he's bought or rented."

There are economies of scale. If you have more than 20 machines you may need to employ someone full-time to look after them.

Midlands Vending, the contract operator, has just struck a deal with Alliance & Leicester to supply vending ma-chines to the company's new headquarters' offices in

David McQueen, Midlands' managing director, says: "We put in more than 50 machines and have appointed two residential staff to look after them. The more you buy in bulk, the better the deal."

So how do you know if you are getting a good deal? The answer is easy, says AVAB to an AVAB member."

The 320 member companies which include machine manufacturers, distributors. commodity manufacturers and contract operators — work to a code of ethics. If a company is not happy with the service, then it can call in the AVABto mediate.

Ms Gledhill says: "We make sure the operator complies with its contract.

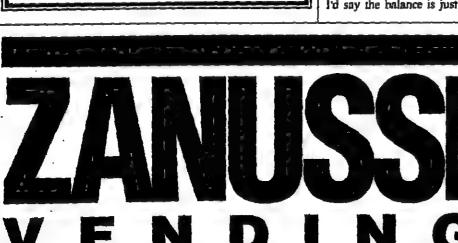
"If they fall short they face sanctions, which in the worst case could result in expulsion from the association."

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Liability for making fire worse

Capital and Counties plc and Another v Hampshire County Council

John Munroe (Acrylics) Ltd v London Fire and Civil Defence Authority and Others The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Great Britain) v West Yorkshire Fire and Civil Defence Authority

Before Lord Justice Stuart Smith. Lord Justice Potter and Lord Justice Judge

(Judgment March 14)

A fire brigade was not under a common law duty to answer a call for help or take care to do so, but a plaintiff could recover against the brigade for its negligence in creating a danger which caused the

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment dismissing three appeals: (i) by the defendant, Hampshire County Council, Irom the decision of Judge Richard Havery, QC (The Times April 26, 1996; [1996] I WLR 1553), sitting on official referees' business, in fayour of the plainniffs. Capital and Counties ple and Digital Equipment Co Ltd; (ii) by the plaintiff, John Munroe (Acrylics) Ltd, from the decision of Mr Justice Rougier (The Times May 22, 1996; 1996) 3 WLR 988) in favour of the first defendant, London Fire Brigade and Civil Defence Authority: (iil) by the plaintiff. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Great Britain), from a decision of Judge Crawford, QC (The Times May 9, 1996), sitting as a judge of the High Court, in luvour of the defendant. West Yorkshire Fire and Civil Defence Authority.

Mr James Mumby, QC and Mr Edward Faulks, QC, for Hamp-shire: Mr John Slater, QC, Mr

In re Net Book Agreement

Before Mr Justice Ferris, Mr Barry

The Net Book Agreement, by which the prices of books subject to

the agreement were fixed, had

become contrary to the public

interest. Resale price maintenance

books could no longer be

The Restrictive Practices Court

so held discharging on the applica-

Trading under section 4 of the

lestrictive Trade Practices Act

1976 and section 17 of the Resale

Prices Act 1976 previous orders of

RP 246), in 1964 ((1964) LR 4 RP 484) and in 1968 to the effect that

restrictions on the resale price of

net books was not contrary to the

Miss Genevra Caws, QC and

Mr Jon Turner for the director

general; Mr John Calder in person and representing the Calder Educational Trust and Miss Jen-

nifer Glayzer in person and

MR JUSTICE FERRIS said that

by three orders made by the Restrictive Practices Court in the

1960s arrangements under which

the resale prices of books and related goods could be maintained

by publishers were declared to be in the public interest.

The agreement was entered into

In 1957. There were in fact two

the

quisitions Group.

Colgate and Mr John King

1957 (M and N)

(Judgment March 13)

Simon Brown, QC and Mr Alexander Antelme for Capital and Counties; Mr Jonathan Sumption, QC and Mr Nigel Tozzi for Digital: Mr Ronald Walker, QC and Mr Toby Hooper for John Munroe, Mr Michael De Navarro, QC, Mr Graham Ekhund and Mr Neil Hext for London Fire Brigade and Civil Defence Authority; Mr Anthony Boswood, QC and Mr Bruce Speller for The Church of Jesus

Christ; Mr Colin MacKay, QC and Mr Jonathan Bellamy for West Yorkshire Fire and Civil Defence LORD JUSTICE STUART SMITH, giving the judgment of the court, said that by an order

dated December 17, 1996 Lord Justice Judge ordered that the appeals should be consolidated and argued together because they raised similar questions of law, in particular whether and in what circumstances a fire brigade owed a duty of care to the owner or occupier of premises which were

damaged or destroyed by fire.

in the first case Capital were the Crescent, in Basingstoke, Hampshire. Between 1989 and the date of the fire on March 6, 1990 Digital, an American company, occupied the Crescent as under-lessees. The Crescent was equipped with a heat-activated sprinkler system for

The fire began at about 10am in block of the building. The sprinklers began to operate at 10.23am, before the arrival of the fire brigade. At 10.50am the sprinkler system was shut down on the Mitchell. The judge held that the officer's action in turning off the sprinkler system was negligent.

Disabling the sprinklers had an adverse effect on the restraining of control. The building was a total

members of the Publishers Associ-

ation and the other between cer-

tain persons who were not

were identical in all material

section 4 of the Restrictive Trade

Practices Act and section 17 of the

Resale Prices Act to discharge its

previous orders and to declare that

Net Book Agreement was contrary

to the public interest and to refuse

to declare that books and maps

were exempted goods for the purposes of legislation on resale

price maintenance. The court's jurisdiction to review and, if appro-

priate, reverse its own previous

and apparently final orders was

subject to carefully expressed

His Lordship had considered

pretiminary questions of law pursuant to section 7(1) of the

Restrictive Practices Court Act 1976

and in a judgment on December

20, 1996 (unreported) had held that

applications under sections 4 and 17 both involved two stages.

At the first stage the issue was

material change in relevant

circumstances. At that stage the

burden of proof lay upon the applicant, in this case the director

If the court was not satisfied, at

the first stage, that there had been a material change in relevant circumstances it would inquire no

further. If, however, the court was

satisfied of that matter it would

proceed to the second stage.

That required consideration of

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(*) Decision in C Storling at the curren

(SFr)

restriction accepted under the

The court had been asked under

pers. The two agreements

loss. The damage was assessed at

In the second case the second defendants, Any Effects Ltd. now in liquidation, specialising in creating special effects for film and television, caused a deliberate explosion on wasteland near the plaintiff's industrial premises. Burning debris was scattered over a wide area and small fires broke out. Some of the debris was seen to

fall on to the plaintiffs' premises. When the fire brigade arrived the second defendants' staff had already extinguished the fires on the wasteland and there was no visible evidence of any continuing conflagration.

The fire brigade's officers took steps to satisfy themselves that all fires had been extinguished and that there was no residual danger and they left the scene without inspecting the plaintiff's premises.

Later that evening, a fire broke out at the plaintiff's premises, which were severely damaged. The plaintiff issued a writ against the fire authority alleging negligence by their servants or agents. judge, on a preliminary issue whether the fire brigade owed any duty of care to the plaintiff, held that the fire brigade was not under sufficient proximity between the parties, and it was not fair and reasonable to impose such a duty

In the third case the claim was for El.8 million, being the cost of repairing the plaintiff's chapel after a disastrous fire on October 22, 1992 which began in a classroom attached to the chapel.

It was alleged in the statement of claim that it was not until some time after arrival that the brigade was able to fight the fire, owing to the absence of a proper supply of water. The plaintiff's claim was framed both in negligence and in breach of statutory duty under

existing at the time of the new

hearing, (i) the restriction accepted

under the Net Book Agreement

was or was not in the public

of the Restrictive Trade Practices Act; and (ii) books and maps ought

to be exempted goods for the purposes of the Resale Prices Act

having regard to section 14 of that

At that second stage the burden

of satisfying the court lay upon

those who contended that the

restriction was not contrary to the

should be exempted goods, in this

The court was satisfied that

there had been changes in relevant

circumstances since the previous

orders were made. The most

striking change which had occ-

urred was the collapse of the Net

None of the seven major publishing groups (Reed, Pearson, Harper Collins, Random House,

Transworld, Macmillan and

Hodder Headline) now published

in the relevant circumstances what

was contemplated was "a change

in an essential part of the reason

ing by which the court reached its

ment Makers' Federation Agree-ment (No 2) (1974 ICR 445, 452). The collapse of the Net Book

Agreement undermined the whole of the 1962 reasoning, which was

based on the assumption that, if the court upheld the restriction

accepted under the agreement,

In re a Debtor (No 47 of 1996)

A creditor who had voted on a proposal for an individual vol-

untary arrangement at a creditor's

meeting could not avoid being bound thereby, by subsequently claiming that a part of his debt was

not ascertained at the date of the

meeting, and had not been in-

cluded in the figure he stated was owed, and that he had therefore

not voted in respect of that un-

Mr Edward Nugee, QC, sitting

as a deputy judge in the Chancery Division, so held in a reserved

judgment on March 3, on an application by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise for direc-

tions under section 263(3) of the

HIS LORDSHIP said that it was

incumbent on a creditor who

wished to vote in respect of his debt

to state to the best of his ability the

ascertained part.

Insolvency Act 1986.

case the respondents.

Book Agreement.

olic interest or that the goods

erest having regard to section 10

Book price protection withdrawn

section 13 of the Fire Services Act

The defendant applied to strike out the statement of claim as disclosing no reasonable cause of action. The judge dismissed the action.

The question whether in the absence of a statutory authority a statutory power to act could be converted into a common law duty to exercise the power was considered by the House of Lords in Stovin v Wise (11996) AC 923). The fire brigade was not under a common law duty to answer a call for help and was not under a duty to take care to do so.

But where a rescue service itself by negligence created the danger which caused the plaintiff's injury there was no doubt that the plaintiff could recover: see, for example, Righy v Chief Constable of Northamptonshire (1985) \ WLR 1242) and Knightly v Johns ([1982] I WLR 349).

Section 13 of the 1947 Act provides: "A fire brigade shall take all reasonable measures for ensuring the provision of an adequate supply of water, and for securing that it will be available for use, in case of fire."

The section was not intended to confer a right of private action upon a member of the public. The duty propounded in the section was more in the nature of a general administrative function of procure-ment placed on the fire authority in relation to supply of water for fire-fighting generally. Therefore no action lay for breach of statutory duty under the section.

In the event all the appeals would be dismissed. Solicitors: Mr Peter Robertson, Winchester; Cameron Markby Hewitt; Barlow Lyde & Gilbert: Hextall Erskine & Co; Mr S. J. F.

Starling, Lambeth: Devonshires:

that restriction would be enforced.

The present situation was that the

restriction in practice had been

abandoned by all those who had

The possibility that that would

happen was inherent in a system

which depended upon the agree

ation of the benefits secured by the

The collanse of the Net Book

Agreement was by itself a material

change in the relevant circum-

stances. Other changes resulting

from improvements in printing

rechnology, wholesaling and sale

or return terms, electronic stock

ound to be material.

sublished titles.

Creditor bound

The court was

rystems and others were also

After reviewing the evidence at

the second stage of the inquiry, the

burden was on Mr Calder and

Miss Glayzer to show that the

restriction should be maintained.

The 1962 order was made on the

basis that the abrogation of the Net

Book Agreement was likely to result in fewer and less well

equipped stockholding bookshops.

more expensive books and fewer

the evidence that the abrogation of

the Net Book Agreement would

now or in the long run result in any

of those consequences. None of the conditions specified in any of the

'gateways' in section 14 of the

Resale Prices Act, which would

have justified continued resale price maintenance, were now

The previous orders were

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor.

total amount that was owing to

him, and, if the value of his debt or

of some part of it was not

ascertained, to state that fact and to

supply the chairman of the meet-

ing with as much information as

was available to enable the chair-

man to put an estimated minimum

Applying the reasoning of Mr

Justice Knox in In re Cancol Ltd

([1996] ! All ER 37). In his

Lordship's judgment, it did not lie

in the mouth of a creditor who had

put a figure on his debt, albeit one

that was stated to be subject to verification, to claim later that he

was owed some other debt which he had not included in the figure

he had stated and in respect of

which he had not voted, and that

he was therefore not bound in

respect of that other debt, thereby

enabling the voluntary arrange-

value upon it.

ment of the parties for the continu-

accepted it.

Power to correct banning order

Official Receiver v Hannan Refore Lord Justice Simon Brown.

Lord Justice Morritt and Lord Justice Waller

Judgment March 14 The court had jurisdiction under Order 20, rule II of the Rules of the Supreme Court, the slip rule, to correct an imperfect disqualification order made under section 1 of the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986.

The Court of Appeal so stated dismissing an appeal by the dis-qualified director. Daniel Peter lannan, from the decision of Mr Justice Harman made on October 28, 1996 whereby, pursuant to Order 20, rule 11, he corrected the order of Judge Bromley, QC, siming as a deputy judge of the Chancery Division made on July 9. 1991, so as fully to accord with section I of the 1986 Act.

Mr Hannan was a director of Cannonquest Ltd which was wound up on March 16, 1988 owing creditors £200,000. On November 15, 1989 the Official Receiver brought proceedings against him under the 1986 Act in respect of his conduct of the affairs of the company, The order made by Judge Bromley incorporated only the provisions of section !(1)(a)

On October 4, 1995 Mr Hannan was charged with "being a director

in contravention of a disqualification order contrary to section 13 of the Company Directors Dis-

qualification Act 1986." Section 1 of the 1986 Act provides:

"(I) ... a court may ... make against a person a disqualification order, that is to say an order that he shall not, without leave of the court (a) be a director of a company, or (b) be a liquidator or administrator of a company, or (c) be a receiver or manager of a company's property, or (d) in any way, whether directly or indirectly. be concerned to take part in the

Mr Alan Newman, QC and Mr Karim Khalil for Mr Hannan; Mr A. W. H. Charles and Mr Malcolm Davis-White for the Official

promotion, formation or manage-

ment of a company for a specified

period beginning with the date of

LORD JUSTICE MORRITT said that the appeal raised, inter alia, the issue whether Order 20, rule 1) conferred jurisdiction to make, and if so whether in the Justice Harman should have made, the order he did,

Mr Hannan claimed that the judge was wrong both on jurisdic-tion and on how he should exercise

make it one was necessarily retrospective in creating a potential offence after the event. That was disputed by the Of-

within the meaning of those words

in sections 1 and 13 and that to

ficial Receiver, who contended. that, albeit incomplete, the order as drawn up was nevertheless a disqualification order. Further or alternatively, he submitted that jurisdiction to correct the order existed under Order 20, rule 11.

Mr Hannan contended that the order as drawn up was not a disqualification order because of the omission of the capacities in paragraphs (b) and (c) of section I(I) and that he would be entitled to have it set aside.

His Lordship did not accept that submission. If Mr Hannan applied to have the order set aside it was inconceivable that his application could succeed so as to leave him undisqualified.

There was no doubt that Judge Bromley considered Mr Hannan unfit to be concerned in the management of a company and intended to impose a disqualification for a period of six years. It was not suggested that he was wrong in either of those respects. Thus any perceived irregularity in the order due to the omission of the other two canacities would be met by a further order curing such irregu-

But in any event, the order

professed on its face to be a disqualification order made under section 6 of the Act. It seemed to his Lordship that the same principle which required Mr Hannan to obey it unless and until it was set aside also required him to obey it as the disqualification order it was stated and was intended to be.

In the present case, as Mr Justice Harman had observed, once the judge had concluded that Mr Hannan was unfit to be concerned in the management of a company he was obliged by statute to impose a disqualification order as defined in section I(I). Thus that result must, in law, be treated as his

If, contrary to his Lordship's conclusion, the order did not achieve that result because of the omission of the other two capacities, then that omission must be treated as accidental and might be corrected under Order 20, rule.

Alternatively, if the incomplete order was none the less a disqualification order there was still . an accidental omission, for the intention to be ascribed to the judge must be to achieve a disqualification order which was both valid and complete.

Accordingly, his Lordship agreed with Mr Justice Harman that he had jurisdiction to make the order he did.

Solicitors: Mills & Reeve, Cam-

Liability of partner after dissolution

Hurst v Bryk and Others Before Lord Justice Simon Brown Lord Justice Peter Gibson and Lord Justice Hobhouse

|Judgment February 4 A partner in a firm of solicitors was discharged from further performance of the partnership contract when he accepted his

partners' repudiatory breach.

But that did not absolve him the trustees of a lease on the partnership premises, in which he had acquired on absolute interest independent of the partnership

The Court of Appeal so held, Lord Justice Hobhouse dissenting in part, when dismissing an appeal by the plaintiff. Robert Alfred Hurst, against the dismissal by Mr Justice Carnwath on April 11, 1995 of his action against Raymond Alexander Bryk and 18 other

Mr Ian Leeming, QC and Mr Gerard Van Tonder for the plaintiff: Mr Philio Hoser for the first to fourth and eleventh to thirteenth defendants: the tenth. lifteenth. eighteenth and nineteenth defendants in person.

LORD JUSTICE PETER GIB-SON said the plaintiff and the defendants had been partners in Malkin Januers, a firm of solic-

WC2. The partnership was formed in 1989 and dissolved 17 months later in 1990. There were disputes as to work

in progress brought in by some partners, as to the way the partnership was terminated and as to the financial and other consequences of the dissolution.

Mr Hurst had claimed an account from the defendants who had counterclaimed for payment by Mr Hurst of his share of the partnership liabilities.

The judge had dismissed Mr Hurst's claim and declared that he was liable for his share of the partnership liabilities, including ngoing liabilities and losses yet to realised. Those included the rent and other outgoings on the partnership's premises

The judge found that the defendants had repudiated the partnership contract which had been rescinded by Mr Hurst's acceptance of that repudiation.

The general principle where a party accepted another's repudiation of their contract was that both parties were discharged from further performance, but rights were not divested or discharged which had already been uncondiionally acquired

Rights and obligations arising from the partial execution of the

which had accrued from its breach alike continued unaffected: Bank of Boston v European Grain Ltd. [1989] AC 1056, 1089-1099).

The difficulty in the instant case lay in applying that general prin-ciple to the dissolution of a partnership caused by acceptance a repudiatory breach. His Lordship accepted that a purely contractual obligation of the inno-cent partner could not consistently with the general principle, be

What occasioned more difficulty the treatment of liabilities which had already been incurred by the partners before the termination of the partnership but which had an element of contingency about them so that the creditor did not unconditionally acquire rights before the dissolution of the partnership. Prima facie, the Bank of Boston principle would prevent the innocent partner being held

The major issue related to the rent. If the issue had turned solely on whether Mr Hurst could be required to perform his contracrual obligations under the partnership agreement to indemnify the trustees of the lease, his Lordship would have concluded that he could not. But the position

The lease was an asset of the

ative value. On becoming a partner Mr Hurst had taken an absolute interest in it of which be was not divested by the termination of the partnership.

The interests of the partnership could not be wound up completely ued to hold the lease and have obligations under it.

It could not fairly be said that the defendants had chosen to continue to bear the ongoing expense because they considered it prudent and in their own interest to do so. The continuing shortfall was con-tinuing liability of all the former partners.

Mr Hurst's equitable obligation to indemnify the trustees subsisted because his property interest subsisted and was in no way dependent on the subsistence of the partnership, nor was it affected by the way the partnership Was The general principle of the

application to an accrued property right and its concomitant obliga-tion to indemnify the trustees of the

Lord Justice Simon Brown delivered a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Hobbouse delivered a

Solicitors: Penningtons: Church

Decision not binding on other reaches

and Another

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Morritt and Sir Iain

Glidewell [Judgment February 11]

A decision that the mooring of a 125h Dutch barge caused substantial interference with the lishing rights of an angling association over one designated stretch of the regard to the mooring of the barge on other stretches of the river

where the anglers fished. The Court of Appeal so held allowing an interlocutory appeal by the defendants. Mr Frank Barton and Frank Barton Services Lid. owners of the barge "The Wye Invader", from a decision of Judge Moseley, QC, sitting as a judge of the Chancery Division at Bristol in March 1996, whereby he had refused to set aside a default dgment ordering the removal of the barge that he had given in July members and trustees of the Hereford and District Angling Association, holding, inter alia, that the defendants were estopped from raising for a second time the issue of whether the permanent

substantial interference plaintiffs' fishing rights. Mr F. Collaco Moraes for the defendants: Mr David Phillips for

mooring of the barge was a

the plaintiffs. LORD JUSTICE MORRITT said that in 1993 Judge Moseley had ordered Mr Barton to remove

the barge from any part of the

River Wye coloured yellow on the

Bryan and Others v Barton plan. He had moved it to a nearby also infringed their fishing rights and they had commenced a second action against Mr Barton.

Mr Barton failed to attend and the judge in that second action ordered him to remove it. On Mr Barton's subsequent application to set aside that order the Judge said that it had already been decided that the mooring was a substantial interference with the plaintiffs' rights and held that Mr Barton was estopped from raising that same issue again.

For Mr Barton it was argued the barge, moored where it was on the yellow stretch necessarily constretch For the plaintiffs, it was said that

Mr Barton had produced no evidence or suggestion that there was an interference with the yellow stretch which would not be bound also to be an interference with the rights of the plaintiffs over which they had fishing rights. However, there was a real question whether the presence of

streich of the river coloured blue that the judge was wrong in the blue stretch, did constitute a considering that there was an issue substandal interference with the of fact which should be heard and considered after a full trial. The conclusion of the judge in

respect of the vellow stretch was not conclusive with regard to other stretches of the river, either as a matter of law or as a matter of fact. The default judgment should be set aside and the dispute determined after a full trial.

Lord Justice Nourse and Sir Jain Glidewell agreed.

Solicitors: Anthony J. Weston. Hereford; Beaumonts, Hereford.

Unfit animal defence

Davidson v Strong Before Lord Bingham of Cornhill. Lord Chief Justice and Mr Justice

[Judgment January 29] A person who permitted an unfit animal to be exposed for sale in a market contrary to articles 5 and 20(c) of the Welfare of Animals at Markets Order (ST 1990 No 2628) and section 73 of the Animal Health Act 1981 committed an

offence of strict liability, However, a defendant so charged might rely on the defence of lawful excuse where he could establish that he had not knowingly caused or permitted any such breach of the statutory provisions. The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held, dismissing an appeal by Mr Robert Davidson by

way of case stated from Basildon

Justices who had convicted him on

a charge brought by RSPCA Inspector Colin Strong, of expos-ing a sick ewe for sale at Colchester Cattle Market

Mr David Cocks, QC and Mr Nicholas Elcombe for the defendant: Mr Paul Shadarevian for the MR JUSTICE MOSES, giving

the judgment of the court, said that, in answering the question whether the present offence was one of strict liability, it was important to bear in mind that article 5 required the prosecution to prove that a defendant had knowledge that he was exposing an animal for sale.

But did the article, read as a whole in the context of the order, import the requirement of know-ledge that the animal was unfit? character so that strict liability

Parliament clearly intended that it should be: see Sweet v. Parsiev [1970] AC 132, 149].

The 1990 Order was clearly designed to regulate conditions in markets for the sale and welfare of animals so exposed and the draftsman in article 20, following section 73 of the 1981 Act, provided a defence of lawful excuse, with the onus on a defendant, on the balance of probability, to show that he reasonably believed the

relevant animal was fit. Such a construction promoted the purposes of the 1981 Act and the 1990 Order. It was not unduly harsh to expose a defendant to liability and leave the onus on him to establish that defence.

Solicitors: Thompson Smith & Puxon, Colchester: Marshall Sut-ton Jones, Colchester.

Scots Law Report March 20 1997 House of Lords

Entitlement to benefit repayments after bankruptcy

Mulvey v Secretary of State for Social Security

Before Lord Browne-Wilkinson. Lord Jauncey of Tullichettle, Lord Mustill, Lord Slynn of Hadley and Lord Lloyd of Berwick [Speeches March 13]

The Secretary of State for Social Security was entitled, after the petitioner's sequestration for bankruptcy, to continue to make deductions in respect of previous repayable awards from income support benefit payments made to

The House of Lords dismissed an appeal by the petitioner, Mrs Rena Mulvey, from the First Division of the Inner House of the Court of Session (Lord President Hope, Lord Allanbridge and Lord Clyde) (1996 SLT 229) who on October 25, 1995 had allowed the secretary of state's reclaiming motion from the interlocutor of the Lord Ordinary (Lord Abernethy) (1995 SLT 1064) on November 18. 1994 pronouncing the declarator sought by the petitioner that the secretary of state was not entitled

to make the deductions. Mr Jonathan Mitchell, QC and

Mr Andrew Webster for the pe-titioner; Mr Matthew Clarke, QC and Mr Gordon Liddle for the secretary of state.

LORD JAUNCEY said that the petitioner had been sequestrated. pursuant to the Bankruptcy (Scotland) Act 1985, on February 3, 1993. The social fund consisted of limited sums paid into it from time

to time by the secretary of state under section 167(3) of the Social Security Administration Act 1992 and was intended to be recycled at least in part so that awards might thereafter be repaid for the benefit of others in need.

Payments out of it were regu-lated by Part III of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992. Section 138(1) of the latter Act provided for payments to be awarded out of the social fund to meet needs. Section 139(1) provided that a social lund officer might determine that an award was to be repayable. Section 78 of the Administration

"Ill A social fund award which is repayable shall be recoverable by the secretary of state. "(2) Without prejudice to any

secretary of state may recover an award by deduction from pre-scribed benefits." Income support benefit was a

The petitioner argued that the deductions from her income sup-

port benefit after sequestration amounted to an attempt to set off a pre-sequestration debt against a post-sequestration obligation. which was impermissible at common law. The rule as to compensation or

set-off in bankruptcy was stated in Goudy, A Treatise on the Law of Bankruptcy in Scotland (4th edition (1914) pp 554-555). When that had been written shortly after the Bankruptcy (Scot-

land) 1913, income accruing to a debtor after the date of sequestration generally fell under sequestration. Section 32(1) of the 1985 Act now vested in the debtor income received by her after the date of sequestration that was not derived from the estate vested in

The petitioner's entitlement to income support benefit was rendered inalienable by statute, from

which it followed that the corresponding obligation of the secretary of state to make payment of it was be ingathered by the trustee. not and could not be owed to the

with the petitioner. Not only did section 32(1) of the 1985 Act vest the benefit when received in the petitioner but, more importantly, section 187(1) of the Administration Act provided "... on the bankruptcy of a beneficiary, lincome support benefit] shall not pass to any trustee or any other

The purpose of that provision had been to make clear beyond peradventure that the trustee could have no interest in any entitlement of a debtor to receive any of the social security benefits to which it applied

person acting on behalf of his

The principle purpose of the rule referred to in Goudy was, as there explained, to prevent a creditor obtaining a preferential advantage over other creditors and thereby diminishing the assets that would otherwise he avadable for equitable distribution.

That in turn presupposed that what was being retained by the otherwise form part of the estate to

The only provision in the 1985 Act that was said to prevent continued deductions under section 78(2) of the Administration Act was section 32(5), but that applied only in income received by the debtor and the deductions made by the secretary of state had never been received,

Second, by no stretch of the imagination could the secretary of state's exercise of his statutory right he described as "diligence for the purposes of the law of Scotland.

To apply the common law rule of concursus debiti et crediti to the secretary of state's right to make deductions would be to apply it for a purpose, the personal benefit to the petitioner, for which it had

never been intended. The deductions had not been as in the normal case of bankruptcy a result of the bankruptcy but had been made in pursuance of a statutory scheme already in operaand with which the trustee could

have no concern.

Prior to sequestration the petitioner had had no right to receive by way of income support benefit more than her gross entitlement after the deduction. The secretary of state's continued exercise of a statutory power of

been unrelated to the sequestration and had not been calculated to obtain a benefit for him at the expense of other creditors. The only person who had had any realistic interest in the deductions had been the petitioner, from which it followed that the secretary

deduction after sequestration had

of state was not seeking to exercise any right against the trustee. His exercise of his statutory power did not amount to compensation or set-off for the purposes of the application of the rule: compare Bradley-Hole v

Cusen ([1953] | QB 300). Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Mustill, Lord Slynn and Lord Lloyd agreed.

Solicitors: Hodge Jones & Allen for Erskine MacAskill & Co. Edinburgh for Nafialin Duncan & Co. Glasgow: Treasury Solicitor for Solicitor in Scotland to Section 1985 retary of State for Social Security.

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VIARCH 20 1949



THEATRE 1

Wilde thing: Simon Callow reveals his versatility in The Importance of Being Oscar



■ THEATRE 2

Poe-faced: The Fall of the House of Usherettes gives a farcical twist to a famous tale THESTIMES



■ CHOICE 1

Ben Elton's Hollywood satire, Popcorn, comes to the West End VENUE: Now in preview at the Apollo



■ CHOICE 2

VENUE: Now in preview, Lyric, Hammersmith

THEATRE: Fine revival of MacLiammóir's Wilde tribute; multimedia madness; unsexy erotica

Everything but callow

gramme that he has adored Oscar Wilde since he was 13 and, as he was revealing in these pages a few days ago, he got to know and admire Micheal MacLiammoir at the time his hair was turning lacquer-black from advancing age.
But Callow's delivery of the tribute to

Wilde that the Irish actor started

The Importance of Being Oscar Savoy

touring round the world in 1960 strikes me as exemplary: unsentimental, lucid, lively, absorbing.

Callow steps on to a stage furnished with cream chairs, tables and books, wearing a dark purple suit and an open-necked white shirt above which a grey-white beard is neatly curled. He looks less like Wilde than a younger Paul Scofield playing a distinguished variety of plum.

But then The Importance of Being Oscar does not follow current fashion. for it is couched in the third person, not the first. Only when Callow launches into De Profundis and The Ballad of Reading Gaol are we meant to feel we are hearing Wilde himself, instead of listening to his story and extracts from his works.

For me, that letter and that poem were the high, or maybe the deep, points of the evening at the Savoy

THE TITLE is terrific, and

just right for Forkbeard Fan-

tasy's weird creative style in

which live action is spliced

with film, in this case to tell

the nonsensical tale of Roder-

ick de Usherette and his

sisters, the offspring of a pioneer film-maker, whose

secret they guard in the vaults

Several sequences are daft

enough or deft enough to

raise an appreciative smile.

but forbearance is needed to

pass through the intervening

stuff, which relies on audience

tolerance of a peculiarly Brit-

ish style: the apparently ama-

teurish. Eccentric but nimble

artists want to suggest they are achieving their effects against all odds and only just

Peculiar mechanical effects

are generally part of the enterprise, and are provided

in Usherettes by the Impres-

sive fate of the great caryatids

on either side of the screen,

Gog and Mrs Gog, and the

elevation of the screen itself. It

succeeding.

Theatre. The first is not without its selfpity and bitterness, but Callow convinces you that Wilde learnt the meaning of grief, sympathy and chari-ty within those dank prison walls. And when he comes to the moment in the Ballad when the wife-murderer is hanged, and "through all the gaol there rose a wail of impotent despair", he makes you hear and feel that sound.

There is a gravity about both items that contradicts the view of Wilde either as a frivolous poseur or (which is more common these days) as a wonder-

The evening starts with Wilde's

The script occasionally gets florid ("joyous noonday of his lily and sunflower") and becomes a bit plonking when it tackles cultural history. But MacLiammoir did well to shun the famous bons mots for lesserknown ones, such as London fog being nature's botched attempt to mimic the art of the French Impressionists, or sentimentality being "merely the Bank Holiday of cynicism". He also allows the actor Callow the chance to show



Simon Callow: humanising rather than idealising the genius of Oscar Wilde

what that fine, flexible voice of his can

Actually, he is not a terrific Lady Bracknell - she sounds thin and shrill, not solid and formidable - but he does bring Jack Worthing, Algy and Algy's sepulchral butler and grumpy father enjoyably to life. He also leaves you

shivering at Dorian Gray's last-gaso transformation into a raddled, withered monster. Those who enter the Savoy thinking there's only one Callow will leave knowing there are several.

LI ATTRAMPIS ON MER LIFE Furner structural changes of this theater for Tim Albert's ambitious slaging of a new Martin Crimp play a mosaic of scenes building also a post-moderns portrait of a modern woman. Royal Court Circle and Stage, Ambitionables. Word Store: WC2 MC1:555-5000. Med. Std. 7.45-500. Ambasades, West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) Mon-Sat, 7 45pm; 3pm, and Sat, 5pm

DITHE FALL, OF THE MOUSE OF USHERETTES Forbeard Fariesy's come his returns; crazy doings in a crumbing Sease inhibited by three gruesome crories and their teeble brother. Enjoyably barmy staff Lyric Theories Stadio, King Street, Harmensmith, W6 (1981-741 2311) Mich-Set. Spm., mar Set, 4.30pm (No peris Merch 28, 29, 31) Unit April 5.

III IVANOV: Raiph Flemnes hreads a uplendid cast that includes Harmit Writter and Oliver Ford Davies, in Jonethan Keni's excellent production of Chekhov's first produced play Almelda, Almelda Street, N1 (0171-355 4404). Mon-Sai, 7.30pm; mats Sai, Jpm Until April 5

THE RCHOOL FOR WIVES: Policy Bowles both touching and comic as

◆ THE ENGLISH PATIENT (15): Map-

NEW RELEASES

Dawn French is among the cast of a new revue, Then Again ...

his could have been an evening of incense and high devotion. After all, Simon Callow tells us in the pro-

fully exotic decadent.

decision to leave the "conversationally competitive" dinner tables of Dublin for London, takes him briefly to America, and soon moves to disaster in the form of the frightful Bosie. The trial itself passes in the interval, between arrest and judgment, maybe because the Lord Chamberlain would not permit MacLiammoir to repeat the evidence, maybe because "feasting with panthers" was actually a sad, sordid business, somewhat akin to Tom Driberg's compulsive cottaging. The impression left, though, is more of tact than evasion, for the evening's aim is clearly to humanise rather than idealise Wilde.

run down the same corridor and are hit on the head.

NIGHTINGALE Lust loses its lustre

and Cooked Men

MUSIC pounds and six beglittered, beauty-spotted creatures in crumpled brocade and imitation silk preen and strut for us. The three men and three women look like degenerate Harlequins and Columbines. Suddenly the music stops and these exotic creatures turn back into the giggly touring actors they are: rococo eroticism meets Croy-

Under the direction of JEREMY KINGSTON lamps, the performers voice

their desires for each other. their extended metaphors becoming sillier and sillier.

◆ THE ENGLISH PATIENT (15): Map-making Raiph Flannes smoulders with passon for Knath Scott Thomes. Epic, intelligent, though not quite worth all the praise. Decetor, Anthony Minghela. Barblean (6) (0171-538 8991) Chelsee (0171-351 3742) Claphem Picture House (0171-495 3323) Curzon West End (0171-399 1722) Cabe (0171-727 A043) Odeonic Kecatington (0181-315 4214) Matrite Arch (1761-316 4216) Swise Cottage (0181-315 4220) Phoenix (0181-863 2233) Plaza (0990-The problem with all this is that other people's generalised desire is banal in the telling, and quoting chunks of Roland Barthes's Fragments of a Lov-Phoenix (0161-863 2233) Plaza (0990-885 990) Reneir (077-837-8402) Richmond (0161-332 0030) Rio (0171-254 6577) Ribby (0171-737-2121) Screen on Beiter Breel (0171-935 2772) Screen on the Green (0171-226 3520) UCT Whiteleys (0990-828 990) Virgin Folham Road (0171-370-2535) Warner West End (0171-437 4343)

+ THE EVENING STAR (15)* Neuran securit to Terms of Endeament, with Shriey MacLaine, Bill Payton and Jutenta Lews Director, Robert Harling, Odeones, Kensington (1018-315 4214) Swiss Cottage (0187-315 4220) Virgin Haymericet (0171-639 1527) ACTIVER MIGHT (15): Arrance: writing in Mazi Germany gets into trouble Absorbing adaptation of Kurt Vonnegut's novel, with Nack Note: of human sexuality undercut pretentiousness, it seems an Director, Ketin Gordon. Curzon Phoenit (0171-369 1721) Metro (0171-437 0757) error to seriously produce a meditation on desire Which cannot take desire itself MEVER TALK TO STRANCERS (18) Tame erotic thrifer directed, surprisingly, by Peter Hell, with Rebeccs DeMornay seriously.

CLARE BAYLEY

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

French, Shella Hancock and Nell Mullarkey, with John Gould at the piano Lyric, King Sanet, Hantmersmith, W6 (0181-741 2311). Previews begin tonight, 7 30pm. Opens March 27

GLASGOW Thomas Dausgeard conducts the Royal Scottlish National Crothentra in Lundswesti's Chart 3, Saymanowski's sensulus settings of Parsian poerry — Symphory No 3, Sang of the Night (Adnan Thompson, tenor) — and Toskovsky's Fith Symphory With the RSNO Charus Royal Concert Hall, Buctarian Street (014) 287 5511) Tonight, 7 30pm (§)

nuscrapiday by David Winghi and David Wood, telling the strange but true stony of the Ractor of Shiftiay, publicly detrocked in Norwich Cathedral in 1932. Henry Burke directs Jimmy Thereses on the least the

Playhouse, Gun Wharf, St George's Street (01603 766466) Opens torught, apm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm. mats Thurs and Sat. 2.30pm. Unit April 6.

ELSEWHERE

The first exhibition of the graphic artist's work to be shown in Balaim camps 1962 includes weap-colours, drawings and pratic, made between 1912 and 1930 Royal Acadesay of Arts, Proceedity, W1 (0171-429 7438). Opens room: Then tialiy 10am-6om Unii J.cne 8 🕵 ENGLISH CHAMSER ORCHESTRA EMOL ISH CHARGER ORCHESTIA.
The outstanding peroxisantst Evolyn
Glennie joins the orchestin for Veri.
Verii, Emmanuel, Jernes Macmillans
"muscale exploration on the theme of
liberation from lear anguish and
opprossion." Music by Bratien and
Busons, Sourt-Salens and de Falla
complaints the programme. The
conductor is Stefan Actour,
Barbican, Sale Steet. EC2 (0171-638
8891). Tonghir, 7 30pm.

THE BERLIN OF MEONING GROSE

POPCORNI Ben Etion's blistering comedy about move violence A Tarantinoesque director gets his comeuppatice when a couple of sental

come appaince when a couple or sent a lates great playing by Patrick (Vicine and Dena Davic) blame him for their mischeds Laurence Spokell directs Apollo, Shaffesbury Avenue W1 (1971-494 5070) Previous bogst longitut, apm Opens April 10, 7pm Then Mon-Sat. Spm. mars Wed Spm. Sat. 4pm

THEN AGAIN.... A new Lync Revue, drawing on the sharper terms from years gone by, plus fresh material Mol. Bardelt directs Desirrond Barra. Down

THEATRE GUIDE

Thompson in the lead rote.

SI ART Dawid Harg, Arcan Leaser, Mark Williams take over from the angined cast in this interesting drafts about fromdehig, unspoker, resentment and anulmost all-strice painting.

Wyodham's, Cheiring Cross Road, WC2 (071-389 1/36) Tue-Sat, Spirr, mails Wed, 3pm, Sat and Sun Spirr, II House full, returns only II Some number example. ☐ Seats et all prices LI ATTEMPTS ON NER LIFE Funde

THE FALL OF THE HOUSE OF

PLYMOUTH: From a Jack to a King foliows in the occurs tootsteps of its sate show, the Olivier Award-winning mucked, Patrum to the Fortudean Planet. The uproamtusty energetic ma, of Shakespoare's Machoth and rock in roll fats of the 1950s begins tourning under the direction of Bio Cariffon.

Thesetin Reveal Broad Perade (\$) the direction of Bob Carlion.
Theathe Royal, Royal Parade (S)
(01752 267221, Previous foundit and
fornomer, 7.30pm, Sat. Spm and
8.30pm, Opens March 24, 7.30pm Then
Tue-Thur, 7.30pm; Fin rind Sat. Spm
and 8.30pm; Until March 29 Then in
Brighton, Theathe Royal (01273
328488), April 7-12; Dentiond, Orchard
(01322 220000), April 14-19 LONDON GALLERIES

Canadan Aria Castra: Paracetrets (0171-435-2643) Christopher Hull 2ce Benton: Recent Partings (0171-235-0500) Dover Street Kate Malons (0171-409-1540)

Malone (0171-409 1540)
Grosvenor Foru British Ansas (0171-629 0891) Harriert Green "Fired"
Contemporary Print in Ceramics (0171-629 0891) Harriert Green "Fired"
Contemporary Print in Ceramics (0171-628 0279) London Indian "Fondallery of Children"s Art: A Festival of Seasons: Celebrating Green Printing (0171-429 1200) October Eissabeth Lalouschek New Works (0171-22 1757) Portfand Nine Mundoch Mary Anne Ayroun-Eiss, (0171-32 16422) Redfern: William Gear: A Golden Jubide Erhibdion (0171-734 1732) Tabe: Luciano (0171-734 1732) Tabe: Luciano (0171-887 1600), Theo Waddington John Lessone (0171-894 1584)

Moiere's deluded hero. Enc Sylves excellent as his flicker-fingered sarvant Piccadility Denman Street, W1 (0)71-369 1734). Mon-Sat, Bpm; mats Wed.

SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE SUDDING The Songs alone is care: successive interesting of Leiber and Steller", this Broadway compilation show Prince of Wales, Covernry Street, W1 (9171-839 5967) Mon-Sat, Bpm, mate Thurs and Sat, 3pm.

MA STREETCAR MARIED DESIRE Jessica Langa, Toby Stephens, Imagen Stubbs in adroit production by Peter Hall Try to forget the film. Thantic Royal, Haymarkel, SW1 (0171-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mass Thure, Ser, Spm. Until March 22

THINER HOURII AFTER MARRIAGE: Eightenth-contury comedy by Gay, Pope and Artulinnot; taboured come effects do not increase the joility but there are burry moments. Ptt. Barbleon, Sirk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8691). Tonight, 7 15pm, mat, 2pm

ELWAKING: Sono Theatre Co.s Ins but waterful continues to be find production at their reasy permissis (still being buth). I'm Coghlen's play set in an intal heatmeave exacerbating this (ensures boneen three generations of a lamily. Directed by Abrigal Morrs, Soho Theather Company at 21 Depn Street, WI (0171-420 0022). Mon-Sat. 8pm. Until March 29

EI WOMEN ON THE VENGE OF HRT Marie Jones and Elicen Pollock in love with Deniel O'Donnell, Hij Insh toye with barten o bornes. In it is in cornectly tit their daydreams are a bit careers, cometoe. Vaudeville, Strant. WC2 (0171-896 9967) Mon-Sat, 7 45pm; male Thus, and Sat, 3pm

LONG RUNNERS

© Cats: New London (0171-406 0072)

© Crease: Cambridge (0171-494 5080)

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CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where Indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

end Antoruo Banderas. Virgin Trocadero (0171-434 0031)

◆ BLOOD AND WINE (15), Seed

FIERCE CREATURES FOR Broad comedy in an English aco, horn John Cleese and A Fish Catled Wands rear With Kevin Kine, James Lee Curils Director, Robert Young Brophie (0990-888 990) UCI Whiteley (0171-382 5966) Treaders (2) (0171-382 5966) Treaders (2) (0171-382 5966) Treaders (3) (0171-382 5966) Treaders (3) (0171-382 5966) Treaders (3) (0171-382 5966) Treaders (4) (0171-382 5966) Treaders (5) (0171-382 5966) Treaders (6) (0171-382 5966) Treaders (6

RMA VEP Hong Kong star gets in deep water shooting a French film Paylul oddny from disector Oliver Assayes, with Maggie Cheung Everyman (0171-435 1525) ICA Clinette (0171-930 3647)

overlong comedy, with Oscar-nominated Tom Cause Captress Picture House (D171-498 523) Empire (0990 (65990) Odesows Kensington (D181-315 4214) Merble Arsh (0181-315 4216) Swiss Cottage (D181-315 4220) UC) Whiteleys (D (0600 888990) Virgins: Chelses (0171-52 50%) Fuman Road (0171-370 2638) Troadero (0171-434 0031)

MARE ATTACKSI (12) Tim Button's aggressively sily and star-studded spool of the alien invision move. With Juck Micholson, Clann Close, Annatte Bening, Pierce Brosnan Cicce, America Berung, Pierce Stoarum and Darny DeVito
Claphain Picture House (0171-498
3323) Notting Hill Coronet (2) (0171-727 6705) Odeons: Marble Arch
(0181-315 4216) Swise Cottage (0161-315 4220) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) UCI
Whitedon (2) (01920 Ritisto) Virginia;
Putham Road (0171-370 2635)
Trocadero (2) (0171-434 0031) Warner
West End (0171-437 4343)

 THE PORTRAIT OF A LADY (12): Jane Campion's wily elegant adaptation of Henry James, with Nucle Kidmen as the independent American sucked into 0691) Ritzy (0771-737 2121)
Scroen/Baiter Street (0771-835 2772)
Scroen/Baiter Street (0771-835 2772)
Scroen/Hil © (0171-435 3366) UCI
Whiteleys © (0990 888990) Whythes:
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Schlocky horror show

The Fall of the **House of Usherettes** Lyric, Hammersmith

is a joyfully absurd moment when the grim sisters pump air into a long tube and the screen takes shape like a silvery manta ray rising from

Deep in the vaults of the Empire Cinema, lone surviving building in an abandoned city, lie vats of liquid film. The properties of this wondermaterial are never precisely shared with us, but it enables movies to be stored in bottles and can trap people in loops of film where they endlessly

The founders of Forkbeard.

Chris and Tim Britton, have developed the art of darting behind a screen on the stage and into a previously shot film. A live actor will carry on an argument with someone in the film, even with himself. ettes because three actors play five characters.

Britton T plays Earlobe, a tomb-robber from the National Film Archive, Britton C is the dithering Roderick, and together with Ed Jobling they play the three Usherette sisters, crones with hairstyles like burnt cottage loaves.

The cartoon sequences are ingenious, as is the toke of a rotating projecting room. The sets and general design (by Penny Saunders) make clutter an art form, and John Tellett's direction presumably added elements of cohesion to the general lunacy.

Raw Women

Crovdon Warehouse

don on a Thursday night.

Firenza Guidi, a young Italian director, the company explore the theme of seduction - but the piece is a teasing collection of rithits rather than a fully satisfying, rigorous exploration. Furtively lit by bedside

er's Discourse cannot disguise the fact. Various tableaux ensue, and the performers

play with the boundaries between a base, contemporary expression of lust and a more highfalutin aesthetic. Each of the performers has physical skills, and David Murray stands out as an authentically unsettling figure. But while the constant return to the ridiculous sides

CURRENT

◆ BLOOD AND WINE (16), Secty adventures of wine merchant Jack, Nicholson, Stylish potbolier from director Sich Patelson, Putham Road (0171-370 2636) Trecadero (2) (0171-434 0031) Warmer West End (0171-437 4343) ◆ FIERCE CREATURES (PG) Broad

434 00311

◆ JERRY MAGUIRE (15): A sports PA agent gets a conscience Enjoyable, il

the independent American sucked into methode in Europe ABC Tottesham Court Road (0171-50 6143) Caspiam Picture House (0171-495 3223) Librarier (0171-956 0891) Ribay (0171-737 2121) Recombines Short (1171-036 977

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FILM 1

Topped up with more special effects, Star Wars returns to work its naive enchantment again

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■ FILM 2

Basketball star Michael Jordan meets a bunch of cartoon characters: it adds up to the inane Space Jam





FILM 3

Richard Harris and Stephen Rea deliver Billy Roche's fine script with panache in Trojan Eddie



■ TOMORROW

Pop on Friday has an interview with fast-rising Mindy McReady and reviews of all the top new albums

CINEMA: Geoff Brown on Star Wars, repackaged for a whole new buying public



Thanks to the miracle of computer imagery, Jabba the Hutt leaps from the third of the Star Wars trilogy to the first. Harrison Ford is unimpressed

Sales force is with us

galaxy far, far away, Harrison Ford was considered sexy. He sported blow-dried hair, a teasingly unbuttoned shirt, and an unlined face that actually smiled. A long time ago robots resembled household appliances — a vacuum cleaner crossed, say, with a washing machine - and were benign enough to be affectionately called "that malfunctioning little twerp". Mark Hamill Californian surfer's shaggy mane and bubblegum brain. while Carrie Fisher, deposed princess of a galactic republic, appeared to wear bagels on the sides of her head.

None of the above has changed in Star Wars, the Special Edition. George Lucas may have used digital technology to erase imperfections and dd new footage, but the bulk of this movie milestone looks the same as it always did, dotty hairstyles and all. In 1977, Star Wars ran for 121 minutes. Now it runs for L25, and the value of those extra minutes lies far more in their use as a marketing hook than in any artistic achievement.

What has changed, of course, is the way we ourselves perceive the space adventures of Luke Skywalker, Han Solo, Princess Leia and the other creatures of Lucas's imagination. Twenty years ago, Lucas was creating a new kind of spectacle that viewed old-style Saturday morning serial thrills through sophisticated adult eyes. He created a cinema of deliberate naivety, and helped to establish the fashion for high-speed blockbuster movies dominated more by special effects than actors' flesh and blood.

But there is still an enormous gulf between then and now. Compared to the films it spawned, Star Wars appears glearningly clean and wholesome. No slobbering, pulsating mutants hog the screen:

Every week, young film fans discuss the latest releases . . .

Tim Thornton, 21: An uncon-

fun, but not nearly as frighten-

Damian Samuels, 19: One of

Leslie Thomas, 18: Its impact

on me is as great as when I

Claire: A treat for those who

Damian: Worth seeing just

for the brilliant Bill Murray.

ing as I remembered it.

cinema's all-time greats.

was younger. Totally fab.

□ SPACE JAM

☐ STAR WARS

COOLIO AND

even the most villainous characters, such as Peter Cushing's Grand Moff Tarkin and his sidekick, Darth Vader, are tidily dressed. There is an old-fashioned concern for morality, for the rights and wrongs of capturing a planet and establishing an evil empire. Current Hollywood films are more concerned with the vigilante ethos, and the glorification of revence

What modern special effects bonanza would embrace a "the Force", the spirit that guided the space knights of old before the imperial forces exerted their grip? There is no room in Independence Day for a guru such as Alec Guinness's Obi-Wan Kenobi. who offers wise, twinkling words to Hamill's Skywalker. Now there are no wise words

from anyone. But Star Wars is still a film that can leave you twiddling your thumbs if your mind is not cocked at a certain angle. You must prepare to be a child again, or at least an arrested adolescent; otherwise, once the situation is set up and the battle lines drawn, monotony might set in so fiercely that no number of laser-beam duels, strating spaceships and exploding planets will rouse you.

But what of the new or doctored footage? The space port of Mos Eisley, previously as bustling as Market Harborough, now boasts extra buildings and eccentric citizens such as the Ronto, a towering, lolloping, scaly creature ridden like a camel. Ford's Han Solo, the mercenary pilot hired to help Skywalker's mission, shares a redundant, computer-generated scene with the slug-like Jabba the Hutt (previously seen as a rubber puppet in Return of the Jedi). Spaceships and smaller vehicles

move more quickly. In themselves, none of these "improvements" matter: the movie, essentially, is still as it

Star Wars Odeon Leicester Square **U. 125 mins** New edition of the

Space Jam. Warner West End **U, 87 mins** Sport's Michael Jordan neets Bugs Bunny

> Trojan Eddie Metro, 15, 105 mins Flavourful tale of Irish scamps

was. But there is something ominous in the spectacle of Lucas, who has not personally directed a film since Star Wars, going back over his biggest hit to tweak a few details with technicians. Lucas is now far more comfortable directing computers than he is directing human beings; one suspects he is only directing The Balance of the Force, the new Star Wars prequel shootthis autumn, because it will rely heavily on computergenerated effects.

This Special Edition also prompts thoughts about Lucas's singular opportunity to revise his past work. Think of the opportunities here. Instead of Star Wars, I would rather see The Magnificent Ambersons with Welles's cut footage found and restored, or experience Erich von Stroheim's decadent splendours of the 1920s freed from Hollywood's censorious grip. Maybe it will happen - a long time in the future, in a

galaxy far, far away.

Meanwhile, Hollywood finds new ways of dehumanising movies. Space Jam takes one live sports hero, basketball's Michael Jordan, and slams him on to the screen with the menagerie of animated characters from the Looney Tunes cartoons. Now sporting a three-dimensional look Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck and

company squawk and splutter in a cacophonous adventure securely aimed at ten-year-old Americans.

On a technical level, there is much to admire in the fusion of media overseen by director Joe Pytka; some of the animation was accomplished by the London company Premier Films, formed from veterans of Who Framed Roger Rabbit. But it is hard to be cheerful about the battery of product placements, the back-up squad of sports personalities (meaningless to British audiences), or the juvenile plot, which pits Jordan and the Looney Tuners in a basketball tournament with bulbous

monsters from outer space. Faced with acting alongside cartoon figures. Jordan performs creditably. You can wring perverse fun from isodetails, such as the

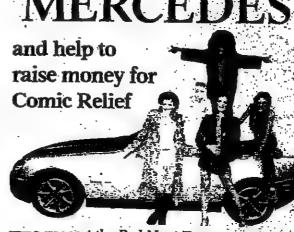
spectacle of Tweety-Pie flicked with a finger against a gym wall. But Space Jam is less a movie than a triumph of merchandise and consumer marketing.

If you want to see human beings on the screen, Trojan Eddie is by far your best bet this week. They are a lively bunch: small-time Irish criminals, housewives, travellers, wily youngsters, plus one vicious godfather running out of time. Richard Harris attacks that no computer could ever simulate. His opposite number is Stephen Rea, an ex-con and hawker of dubious goods in a small Irish town, dreaming of setting up his own business and struggling to be

free of Harris's influence. The script is by Billy Roche, playwright of the Wexford Trilogy. At first he thrusts too many characters at us; only once Harris gets married to Aislin McGuckin's young traveller, and the new wife absconds with his own nephew, does the film begin to stabilise. But in this computergenerated week, it's a joy to meet such messy characters. trailing their flaws, bantering and fighting, all with a genuine Irish flavour.

Scottish-born director Gillies MacKinnon adopts a less stylised approach than in his shows the same fondness for urban scamps, and against the odds makes Harris's victous old brute a figure worth some sympathy. Rea and Harris prove a fascinating combination: the one full of snarling bluster, the other seeming to snap round his heels, but quietly manoeuvring for his own place in the sun.

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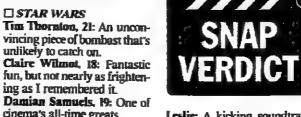
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Damian: Richard Harris does what he does best: being moody, drunk and Gaelic. Leslie: Well-plotted with wicked ending.

Excellent ca **V**

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MUSIC

Hans Werner Henze's Elegy for Young Lovers fails to impress on a misconceived concert outing

Reel life gone with the wind

CIC, 12, 1996 WANT to be whisked up in a tornado and scattered across Oklahoma? This rental release will show you the way. although the cardboard characters and the sheer regularity of the tornado's devastation limit the amount of true drama. The low-voltage cast includes Helen Hunt, Bill Paxton and Cary Elwes: at least they never interfere with the excellent special effects. Co-written by Michael Crichton; directed by Jan De Bont (Speed).

THE ASPHALT JUNGLE

MGM/UA, PG, 1950 "FULL of nasty, ugly people doing nasty things," said Louis B. Mayer, who pre-ferred his MGM studio to make roses-round-the-door films. The people are crooks, planning a jewel robbery and falling out after the event, and director John Huston follows their actions with beady eyes. Brilliantly characterised; Sam Jaffe is particularly memorable as the wizened old mastermind, and Marilyn Monroe makes a striking brief appearance.

THE NUTTY PROFESSOR

nies

CIC, 12, 1996 THIS exuberant remake of the Jerry Lewis comedy, itself inspired by Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde, is at its best in the first half. Eddie Murphy's Professor Klump, 400lb of blubber, exudes genuine warmth as he bumbles courteously around campus. Once the professor's magic potion turns Klump

NEW VIDEO RELEASES

into Buddy Love, a brash, strutting Romeo much closer to Murphy's usual character, the film strays into barren territory, and the vulgarities pile up. Available to rent.

A SUMMER'S TALE

Artificial Eye, U. 1996
MELVIL POUPAUD'S vacanoning student arrives in Dinard to await his girlfriend, only to be lured by other female charms. Eric Rohmer's blissful film offers nothing new: once again the veteran French director focuses on dithering youth, talking away. But the talk flows so freely - and the cast are so engaging (especially Amanda Langlet) — that you soon fall under the spell. Cinema at its most delicate, refreshing and humane.

■ THINGS TO COME Carlton, PG, 1936

ALEXANDER KORDA'S team used great visual flair to depict H. G. Wells's gloomy vision of the future: William Cameron Menzies's set designs are as bold and memorable as those for Metropolis. The script deals in symbolic characters rather than human beings, which prompts variable acting from Ray-mond Massey, Cedric Hard-wicke, Ralph Richardson and company. But it is alive with ideas, which cannot be said of many science fiction films. and stamped with Arthur Bliss's fine music.

GEOFF BROWN



A battle, then Britten

Werther/ **Albert Herring** Manchester

opened in the autumn: Peter Ruthven Hall's elaborate de-cor for four performances of Anna Burford (Nancy) has a Albert Herring would grace any professional company. mezzo just as well formed as Rice's, and with a really exciting contralto extension of The public areas buzz not just Ferrier-like resonance. Claire Weston (Lady Billows) has a with life, but with municipal pride in a remarkable facility. vibrant top, a penetrating middle, and a fruity low The second work in the RNCM spring opera season register, all joined together

was Werther, being given for the first time in this country and only the second time in living memory - in the version for baritone that the composer made for Mattia Battistini, and hence of great interest to Massenetistes. Alas, it showed the composer at his most cynical, the result of a morning's work, surely. just to ensure royalties rolling in from performances by so

VISITORS from the south detect a distinct whilf of

money in the air when visiting the Royal Northern College of

Music, certainly compared to the London colleges. It is not

just a matter of the spanking

new £5 million extension to be

famous a star singer. Top notes are taken down a third or fourth, which, together with bland octave transpositions down (and suddenly up again), destroy the shape of the melodies and leave many lines in an awkward part of the voice to be covered by the orchestra. No wonder Massenet never published this botched job, and it was sad that the talented young singer here, Adrian Powter, was largely defeated by it.

But there were two morethan-just-promising women to hand: Christine Rice (Charlotte), whose firm, warm mezzo is fully formed and beautifully schooled; and Mary-Louise Aitken (Sophie). as bright and sweet of soprano tone as she is of face and figure. We shall hear a great deal more of both. Jennifer Hamilton's amateurish production, in her own villagehall sets, was infinitely depressing, and the conductor Baldur Brönnimann allowed the orchestra to play too loudly and lumpishly.

There were more voices in the Britten, idiomatically con-

soprano we are all waiting for? **OPERA** Other possessors of fine material — D'Arcy Bleiker (Budd). Zoe Willis (Florence), Antonia Sotgiu (Mum), Daniel Broad (Sid) — were tempted to sing too forcefully, which may have had something to do with

Stefan Janski's production.
This was Carry On Albert,
Britten's comedy played as a coarse farce with added sightgags and everyone overplaying like fury. It was, again, infinitely depressing to think of students being taught that this is how comedy should be played.

RODNEY MILNES

Dross rehearsal

THE reason why Hans Werner Henze's Elegy for Young Lovers is one of the most successful of 1960s opera scores is that it is so well written for the theatre, Having asked W.H. Auden and Chester Kallman for a libretto that would require "tender, beautiful noises", the composer produced a score in which an orchestra of no more than 25 players remains for the most part discreetly, if mean-ingfully, in the background. Skilfully integrated with the voices, the instrumental textures are designed to set the tage action in high relief.

But Elegy for Young Lovers is not a suitable opera for the concert hall and, although the singers made the occasional move from one part of the platform to another or added a scarf to their evening dress here and there, the missing stage dimension in the London Sinfonietta's performance in Symphony Hall reduced the experience to that

of attending a rehearsal. Certainly it was both instructive and rewarding to hear this most poetic of Henze's scores presented with such clarity and such expressive colouring. But, with the words largely inaudible and neither printed in the programme nor projected on to

Elegy for **Young Lovers** Birmingham

up to register the scene

changes, it was incomplete. Bearing in mind how much good concert music was written in the 1960s, it was sad to see the audience so put off by this ill-conceived project that by the end of the evening it had dwindled to embarrassing proportions.

As for the unfortunate cast, they must have been looking forward to the repeat performance in the more intimate setting of the Queen Elizabeth Hall. Louisa Kennedy-Richardson in the coloratura role of the visionary Hilda Mack sounded brilliant even here. and there was an impressive performance also from Susan Bickley as the poet's secretary. Carolina. Most of the others. including Quentin Hayes's crucially undercharacterised Mittenhoffer, Jon Garrison's awkward young lover and Susannah Water's colourless object of their rival affections. needed all the help they could get, not least from their wellorganised but uninspired conductor, Markus Stenz.

Excellent cast lands a golden catch

Albert Herring Barstow/Gritton/ Palmer/ Gillett/Lloyd/Northern Sinfonia/Bedford Collins Classics 70422 (2 CDs) ** £26.99 HERRING is 50 this summer. Few will want to be without Britten's own recording (Decca) or the video of Peter Hall's

NEW CLASSICAL RECORDINGS

Glyndebourne staging, which breathed the very air of East Anglian sanctimoniousness. But Collins's new version puts in a hefty and idiomatic challenge to both, due in large part to the witty and nimble playing of the 11-piece Northern

Sinfonia under Steuart Bedford. He does not miss a trick - or a musical joke.

Britten filled his comedy with camen parts. Practically every singer has a chance to seize his or her moment and Collins has for the most part

picked a cast which does not let such apportunities slip. Robert Lloyd is full of constabulary righteousness as Superintendent Budd and Susan Gritton all of a twitter as the local headmistress. Gerald Finley and Ann Taylor, Sid from the butcher's and Nancy from the baker's, flirt like lovestruck teenagers.

Della Jones sounds too refined as Albert's Mum and Josephine Barstow's Lady Billows cannot efface the memory of her famous predecessors she sounds too squally even with that name and lacks the precise diction of those around her. Such minor blemishes can be forgiven when there is the compensation of Christopher Gillett's Albert, a changed man after his tour of the four-ale bars of the village.

JOHN HIGGINS

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Barbirolli's death.

tion and authority.

the recent batch of BBC Radio Classics is Sir John Barbirolli's account of Bruckner's Lighth Symphony. This is a particularly valuable document hecause Barbirolli. though a regular conductor of Bruckner, made no commercial recordings of the symphonies. The occasion is also a poignant one because this Festival Hall concert with the

In view of that, it is possible to take an indulgent line on the patchy sound, the audience noise and the inevitable mishits of a live recording. Sometimes, too, the tutti brass effects are a little crude, but there is a compensating raw energy that drives this periormance and a warm, fullblooded realisation of Bruckner's expansive textures. Indeed, it is the judicious blend of spaciousness and dynamism characterising this reading that gives it its convic-

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Moderation his muse

Peter Stothard on the varied gifts of a poet who combined earth and empire

To say that there is bad blood in the veins of the Royal Family has been fashionable for as long as we have had a monarchy. To link the idea to a 2,000year-old poem about witches who chop up children to make sexstimulants takes a special imagination. Peter Levi's discussion of Horace's "evil" fifth Epode ranges from Latin-speaking cockerels in the years before Horace was born to the character of Rimini more than a thousand years later: a "stronghold of the Sforza family whose disastrous blood ran in the British monarchy through Henrietta Maria".

Levi goes off at tangents with the eagerness that ordinary biographers seek birth certificates. He once wrote a hiography of Lear: so we see Roman Italy through Lear's eyes. A man who can compare Horace's work to "a poem I wrote many years ago for the television series That Was The Week That Was is not one who treads the narrow route to respect.

Horace was one of the most extraordinary artists to have ever lived. By marrying the young Latin language to classical Greek morality and metre, he became one of the true

> **HORACE** A Life By Peter Levi Duckworth E25 ISBN 07156 2775 4

founders of Europe. He was the first poet to produce a precise description of an identifiable place; his five-word description of Terracina (Satires 1.5.26) merits a place in any writer's commonplace book. His sixth Satire is a pioneering act of self-portraiture His ability to weave philosophy and poetry had never been matched before and has only rarely been seen since.

He also happened to fight in one of history's decisive battles, at Philippi in 42 BC, when his future patron and founder of the Roman Empire defeated the assassins of Julius Caesar. With a poet's special sense of military matters, he fought on the losing side. If any ancient figure merits a fresh biography for each new generation (as current publishing practice seems to demand) it is Horace.

Levi can add nothing to the bio-graphical facts of this life. Quintus Horatius Flaccus was born in 65 BC on what would have been December 8 if the Romans had been calculating the date as we do. His birthplace was Venusia, just north of Naples. His father was a freed slave who became wealthy enough to educate his son at met Brutus and made his military debut. He then found himself a clerk's job with the winning side before attracting the attention of Augustus's bagman, Maecenas, and later of the Emperor himself.

Subsequently, Horace settled down to a poet's life in Rome and on his Sabine farm, breaking new literary ground and giving succour to the regime that gave him the peace to do so. This much is more or less agreed. Beyond that, however, Horace has

many faces. The first has been familiar to schoolboys for centuries. This is the iolly countryman Horace who likes a good drink, a compliant



One face of a multifaceted poet: early 16th-century fresco of Horace in the Cappella Nuova at Orvieto

sexual companion and a philosophy of nothing in excess. The harsher urban poems of child-murder, polluted cemeteries and prostitute hags are. according to this view, as atypical as

This Horace has always been an Englishman. As Levi relates, it was Milton's friend, Lucas Holstein, who first "identified" the site of the Sabine farm; the consequent crowds of that a great foreign poet had once

lived among them. The second Horace belongs to the inspirational German scholar and refugee, Eduard Fraenkel. This is the noble Horace who defined one of the statesmen in history. Fraenkel's favourite Horatian ode was not a paean to Pyrrha, as favoured by Milton, or an epicurean comment upon the passing of winter, but a letter of loyalty to Augustus. To his students in Oxford in the Seventies it used to seem odd that a man who had fled the tyranny of Hitler should be so enthusiastic about the tyrannophile aspects of Horace. But

Fraenkel had no problem with authoritarianism as such — as long as

the authority was his own. The third Horace, a sensitive thinker and delicate adapter of Sappho and Alcaeus, is less an Italian admirer of Mussolini, more a Greek partisan in Italian garb. Classical students may still read Fraenkel's Horace (and some of us still recall in fear the memory of his seminars) but

hich face of Horace does Levi show us? Not a very clear one. He admires Fraenkel and follows his reluctance to admire Horace's earthier work. Neither feels comfortable that the great philosophical doctrine of the "golden mean" should be applied to a safe sexual path avoiding married women and whores; in all such disagreeable cases Horace is said to be reworking well worn themes. Levi is an enthusiastic censor. happy to say that a poem in Horace's Latin is "more amusing and less decorous than I have made it".

an underpowered critic and haphazard writer of a life story. He makes a balanced case for the now less fashionable political poems. In the early Roman Empire both military power and moral poetry had a force that had never been felt before. Levi shows how Horace was central to that achievement, how he was not a mere propagandist for Augustus but became: "He was both mesmerised

and one of the mesmerists." This book is otherwise chiefly memorable for its tangents, its unexpected references to its author. Not every reader of the Odes knows that bears prowl about mouning and groaning when they are hungry or that the Egyptian cobra's bite would have been painless for Cleopatra. But Levi explains how he has spoken to the Canadian bear expert. Professor John North of Waterloo; and that he learnt about the cobra from the great A. S. F. Gow, "a very old boyfriend of A.E. Housman who survived at Trinity Cambridge into my day.".

Roger Bannister on the vanishing all-rounder

Century, home run or hole-in-one: it's all sport on the brain

he "Michael" of the tide is the world's greatest basketball player Michael Jordan who, bored with many years of effortless superiority, tried at the age of 31 to switch to baseball and failed. His enormous sporting skills were just not transferable. This book, an eclectic mixture of sporting history, anexiote and neurology, should fascinate even readers with only a glancing interest in sport, analysing as it does the acquisition and disintegration of

high sporting skills.
The Michael Jordan problem illustrates one of the quintessential fascinations of sport - why, suddenly among sporting stars, there arises a superstar of baffling bril-liance. The fact that Michael Jordan could not switch sports also illustrates a second seminal sporting question - why are all-rounders a vanishing breed? Are some athletes ge netically programmed to have exceptional trainable skills, in particular in perceiving the speed and direction of moving

balls they catch and hit? Liam Botham, son of one of our great all-rounders, recentrefused national cricket trials because he prefers rugby and seems just as good at it. The Cowdrays keep cricket in the family the way others keep the family silver. At the royal end of sport, the Princess Royal's son, with sporting genes from both sides, may well play rugby for Scotland.

I believe the main reason for the disappearance of the allrounder is that sporting standards are now so high and specific training so tough and ngthy, that there is no time left to develop wider sporting skills. The current lack of coaching for competitive sports in so many schools does not help the situation.

This book tells the story of the great American all-rounder Babe Didricksen, who won women's Olympic medals for umping and throwing events before she even turned her attention to golf — at which she was the world's best. At present Britain has the world's best woman golfer in Laura Davies. She repeatedly outdrove Tom Watson, who dom-inated golf worldwide in the 1970s and 1980s. Could she have become as great an allrounder as Babe Didricksen? such speculation.

Some sporting problems are simply mechanical. The human shoulder is ill-adapted to throwing a baseball at a hundred miles per hour. The Pitcher Bruce Sutter trapped his supraspinatus nerve and R. Richard, another pitcher, blocked his brachial artery. Sometimes athletes will have incidental neurological diseases and in these cases Dr Klawans gives us useful tutorials Myasthenia causes fatione on hard exercise, which is why Dwight Jameson was nicknamed "First-Half Jameson".

WHY MICHAEL COULDN'T HIT And Other Tales of the Neurology of Sports By Harold L Klawans W. H. Freeman, \$22.95 ISBN 0716730014

Of more interest are the diseases which seem actually to have contributed to sporting success. The Italian boxer Primo Carnera, who was discovered in a French boxing booth, had a pituitary tumour causing gigantism. At six feet seven inches with an arm span of seven feet, this disease gave him weight and reach but without great muscle strength or co-ordination. My own view of boxing is that no civilised country should tolerate this sport", in which the deliberate intent is to inflict damage on the brain. Muhammad All developed Parkinson's disease possibly aggravated by repeat-

Nor a neurologist the greatest interest in this book lies in its discussion of the complex strain sport places on the brain's capacity to learn complex tasks, different but in some ways resembling language and music skills which are also more easily learnt when young. A four-minute piano performance requires some 70 second. A pole vaulter does a reverse twist handstand on a moving 15 ft pole after running

at 20 miles per hour. When complex neurological co-ordination goes wrong it is difficult to control. The golfer Ben Hogan very publicly lost the ability to putt because of an

involuntary jerk known as the "yips". As a left-handed boy he was too poor to buy lefthanded clubs so he had to play right-handed. Since the game is said to require subordination of the normally dominant hand, this might have helped his swing up to a point, but did the strain of the transfer make him more vulnerable to breakdown?

I am puzzled and indeed slightly embarrassed to find myself included in this book rather as a grace note because I happen to be a neurologist with a past in sport. In public I will admit to a degree of obsessiveness desirable in sport and also. I may add, to Dr Klawans a prerequisite for a neurological career!

Dr Klawans's selection is mainly American but his examples can be transferred to Britain. Sporting stress can now be subject to more precise observation than the famous remark by the American coach Yogi Berra: "Baseball is 90 per cent mental and the other half s physical."

There are other books to be written on the neurology of sport but this is a very good start. The serious message of the book is that all learning is complex and difficult, and the moment to learn differs for each activity and must be exploited easily for success. Dr. Klawans is to be congratulated. I hope his love of neurology does not dampen his ardour

Sir Roger Bannister is onorary Consultant Neurologist to the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery. Queens Square, and St Mary's Hospital, London.

A version of this review appeared in Nature Medicine and



Low batting average: Jordan's skills were not transferable

Putting the Third Reich into the Three Rs

Discover how the Nazis used the classroom to indoctrinate German children in the ABC of fascism and how the three Rs were manipulated to peddle a chilling view of the Jews, the disabled and those who refused to Heil Hitler as 'Untermenschen' - sub-humans. All is revealed in April's History Today.

Also, a gripping account of the First Crusade's capture of Jerusalem, and what the Muslims thought of their conquerors. How Dresden's religious faith was tested by its firestorm destruction in 1945. Ethical socialism and the 'Labour Churches', not Tony Blair's brand, but old Labour's circa 1900. Plus why the Soviet Union's collapse has thrown up controversy for a new 'old' country - White Russia - or Belarus.



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Novelty and the ghosts of the great

There is the story of the only time James Joyce met Marcel Proust. Joyce announced that he had a headache and his eves felt terrible. Proust responded that his stomach was killing him and he had better leave at once. "I'm in the same situation," said Joyce. "Goodhye," "Charme." said Proust. "Oh my stomach, my stomach."

The stand-out story in New Writing 6, latest in the annual series of anthologies sponsored by the British Council, is Michael Foley's Marcel et Jim, a fantasia based on this legendary confrontation. Foley slyly suggests that the reputed exchange of banalities was just the official official version put out by the two great men to keep their real encounter private. His fiction has Joyce come back to Proust's apartment, where Proust produces photographs of the adored women in his life including his mother, and Joyce identifies them as terrible Dublin whores that he has known. "What do you take me for?" Joyce cries, when the perversely satisfied Frenchman offers him money in gratitude for his

brutality, Proustitute? This is good dirty literary fun. So is Robert Irwin's Unreadable Books, a monologue parodying the style of a critique, in which characters in books are supposed to be authors. Thus, Enoch Soames becomes the most important writer of our time, and "After Soames, British fiction in the 20th century is one long disappointment." This spoof is perhaps too knowing, but those in the know will adore it.

Robert Nye

NEW WRITING 6 Edited by A. S Byatt and **Peter Porter** Vintage, £7.99 ISBN 0.09954551.9 **NEW IRISH** WRITING Edited by Colm Tóibín Bloomsburv. E7.99 ISBN 0747533052



A. L. Kennedy: sharp

Another intelligent entertainment is David Bellos's essay Our Own and Other Tongues, about translation in the 1990s. Bellos, the English translator of Georges Perec. has interesting things to say. observing that his version of Life A User's Manual "has patterns of language that are at least as characteristic of my own writing as they are of Georges Perec." Why? Because a motive in making the knew what the book would have sounded like had it been written in English in the first place. More homely fare is provid-

ed by John McGahern's The White Boat, a solidly realistic fiction, Irish as drisheen, and A. L. Kennedy's Awaiting an Adverse Reaction, in which all the woe of a marriage is conveyed in four sharp pages as a woman receives injections for a holiday abroad and realises that the flavour of polio vaccine in her mouth is like the unloved taste of her husband's semen. Three women make most impressions among the poets -Lavinia Greenlaw. Maura Dooley, and Dorothy Nimmo, Each achieves an individual rhythm. John Harvey and Christopher Hope let us look over their shoulders with ex-

tracts from novels in progress. Such extracts outweigh the other contributions in New Irish Writing - there are twelve of them, including intriguing bits of unpublished novels by Tom Murphy (his first). Mary Leland, and Deirdre Madden. John Banville provides a scene from a new translation of Kleist's The Broken Jug. transported to Ballybog and playing pointedly on the differences between Irish and other forms of law. And there is a striking extract from a television play by Roddy Doyle in which most of the spoken sentences are only a few words long - Doyle has a fine ear for the rhythm of

Dublin speech-ways. A feature of this anthology is the way Irish writers of the

their own Truly Great. Joyce is er's skill in making parcels. invoked once more in a garruand Seamus Heaney some lous love letter from Edna broken iambic pentameters O'Brien. Yeats figures as a about skimming stones on ghost in Roy Foster's essay. water which show how much and Yeats's less famous brothhe has learned from Robert er Jack gets his painterly due in a piece by Torn Paulin. It's

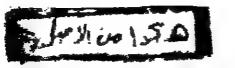
as if the tide's gone out, and there's nothing left to do but pick over the giant footprints on Sandymount Strand. The poets are bolder. Paul Muldoon contributes some puckish musings on the birth of his daughter, Eavan Boland

Books like these are a pleasure to read because they are full of hope and newness, especially in the case of contributors at the start of their careers. They leave no doubt that literature is alive and well and living in the English language all over the place.



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BOOKS

Higher 'learning - and lower

"I HATE racism in all its manifestations and will not tolerate its expression from the most eminent of historians especially from them," writes Francis Jennings, author, in Benjamin Franklin, Politician. immediately after his delicate summing up of the effect of the work of others: The Quakers became in im-

age what crude bigots call

nigger lovers"." Jennings - whose dull. internecine book is only tangentially about Franklin director emeritus of the Newberry Library Center for the History of the American Indian, so racial questions presumably loom large for him, as for all American academics, who are professionally obliged to share his intolerance.

So it is surprising to read the opening to his Chapter 8: No one in a responsible position (in colonial Pennsylvanial could have escaped concern about the tide of immigrant Germans [Franklin wrote:] This will in a few Years become a German Colony: Instead of their Learning our Language, we must learn their's, or live as in a foreign Country." For "Germans" in the first sentence, substitute "blacks" or "Jews" and the effect is explosive. And in parts of present-day Amer-



ica the question of which is to

be the first language is again a

BIBLIOMANE

anti-racist saying that respon-sible people should legitimately be concerned about their own cultures. Common sense. But did he mean it?

I WALK and I balk. South Bank University, Borough Road, SEI: "Student's Entrance". Dismissing the idea. that there is only one student. I conclude that no one at this of learning has ever noticed, or that no one knows. Yes, I am a pedant. Why does it matter more than the shop at the end of the road offering Roll's and Bap's?

It matters because it announces that the place doesn't care about what Housman called "the maintenance of accurate learning". But I want these places to shake off the Private Eye image of "the University of Scotch Corner, formerly World of Carpets". I want to be persuaded that my taxes are being spent on recognisable education. I want to know that students reading

for degrees can read. It matters for the reasons William James put forward in 1908, when he argued that higher education is about cultivating a critical sense. the admiration of the really admirable, the disesteem of what is cheap and trashy and impermanent". Ultimately, he argued, higher education should "enable us to know a good man when we see him". He went on: "That the phrase is anything but an empty epigram follows from the fact that if you ask in what line it is most important that a democracy like ours should have its sons and daughters skilful, you see that it is in this line

more than any other."
We need to educate people to appreciate quality, and we are not doing it well. And incidentally, when will St Thomas' Hospital find its missing "s"?

JIM MCCUE

To order these or any other books call the TIMES **BOOKSHOP** on 0345

Derwent May sweeps through Arthur Ransome's letters and finds adventures worthy of the classic children's writer

Thirteen years ago, Hugh Brogan brought out an excellent biography of the children's writer, Arthur Ransome. Now he has produced a volume of Ransome's letters that bring this genial, ebullient man to life again. When the letters begin, in August

1914, Ransome is 30. He has gone to Russia, to look for folk tales that he can turn into a book - and to get away from an impossibly unhappy marriage. His unhappiness fades very quickly, and in the first days of the Great War he writes enthusiastically to his mother about the Russians. It is clear at once what a natural, vivid writer he is: "You know how our soldiers go off

in pomp with flags and music. I have not heard a note of music since the declaration of war. They go off here quite silently in the middle of the night, carrying their little kettles, and for all the world like puzzled children going to school for the first time. And the idea in all their heads is fine. We hate fighting. But if we can stop Germany then there will be peace for ever'."

He was destined to stay in Russia. or near by in Finland, Sweden or Estonia, for the next ten years. He became a foreign correspondent for **Swallows and Marxists**

SIGNALLING FROM MARS The Letters of Arthur Ransome Selected and Introduced by Hugh Brogan Cape, E17.99 0 224 04261 0

Manchester Guardian, and went on writing brilliant accounts of the war and the Revolution in his letters home as well as in his telegrams to his editors. During these years he also fell in love with Trotsky's secretary, a fiery but deeply loyal woman called Evgenia Petrovna Shelepina (or Topsy", as in Turvy, 10 Ransome — he was called "Charlie", as in Chaplin). After a painful divorce from his first wife, he married Genia in 1924.

He enjoyed those years abroad, and the letters burst with his pleasures - watching the shifting icebergs in the harbour at Riga, with grey hooded crows perched on them

nets between them: building his boat Racundra (the propeller of his tiny outboard engine like "a little brass flower" attached to its large hull); sailing to England, "shedding articles into the post-boxes at all the harbours

on the way". In its early days he was also sympa-Revolution, and argued in The Guardian that British friendship towards the Soviets would steer the Revolution on to quite a different

course, But throughout these years he longed to return to the Lake District, where he had been so happy as a boy, and just write stories. He finally got back



began his new writing career in

1929. Readers who love that book can see intimations of its themes running all through these letters. The four children who sail the Swallow in it are based closely on the children of an old boyhood sweetheart from

1925 - and then dropped politics

like a stone, and

wrote stories, and

hardly ever left the

It was genius to devise the story of

Swallows and Am-

azons when he

Lakes again.

the Lake District with whom he had remained friends, and the lake on which they have their adventures is partly Coniston and partly Windernere, He wrote later to a

young writer friend that she must "follow her own internal compass".
and that is what he did here. "He had found a way," says Brogan, "to do what he had always wanted to do, which was to write stories for children, while satisfying his own

exacting literary standards."

The later life unfolded in these letters, as he went on writing book after book, is a very cheering reflection of the way that literary traditions can go on even though they are at odds with prevailing literary fashion. We are so used to thinking of Bloomsbury, the Auden friends and then Evelyn Waugh's world as embodying English "liter-ary life" from the Twenties to the Fifties that it is startling to discover this other quite self-contained and

contented literary set. One letter reveals that Janet Adam Smith was questioning in The Spectator in 1943 whether Mr Ransome's stories appeal to children who live entirely outside the world of nannies, cooks and private boar-houses". Ransome himself gives a robust answer to this early specimen of a narrow political correctness: "Does she really think that none but birds can read Hans Andersen's Ugly Duckling and that it is necessary to be of the blood royal to enjoy Hamlet, Prince of Denmark? I should be very sorry indeed to think that only children of one particular background can share the fun of open air doings, and the feelings that have been common to all young human beings from the beginning of time."

Ransome did not understand was his daughter from his first marriage, Tabitha. He wrote her some wonderfully funny illustrated letters when she was small, but she clearly never forgave him for deserting her, and he remained bewildered and hurt by the cruel letters he received from her in later life. It is about the only really sad note in this book.

Brogan's notes to the letters could sometimes, I felt, have been a little more informative. But for anyone who wants to go on and read the full story of Arthur Ransome, it is good news that, according to the publishers, Brogan's biography and Ransome's autobiography are still

Knowledge of himself as he was



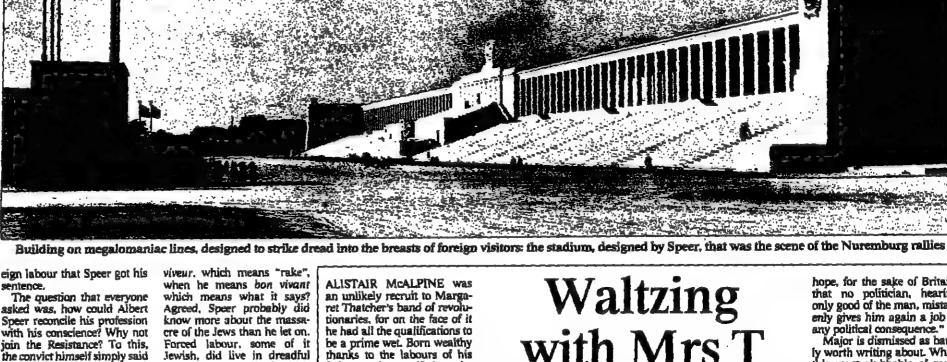
the military effort. Early in 1942, Albert Speer was therefore put in charge of the munitions industry, as a way of making sure that he did not trustrate II. He did very w increasing production remarkably, even though Germany came under deadly bombardment. Like Hjalmar Schadcht, another technician of genius, Speer counted as Hitler's one of most effective henchmen, and, as such, he

got his 20 years' sentence. His own memoirs, ghostwritten by another technician of genius, Joachim Fest, became a bestseller in the later Sixties, after his release. But the question always remained: how could Speer, a highly educated man with excellent manners, have gone along with the evil Nazi crew? How much did he know about the massacre of Jews and the crimes against humanity?

Dan van der Vat has gone into this question in a biography that complements Gitta Sereny's rather well. His great strength (apart from readability - anything to do with the Nazis can be exceedingly boring, as they were, but van der Vat does well) is that he takes Speer seriously as an architect (he does not like the stuff, but I would rather live in a Speer building than in most modern constructions; apart from any-thing else, those Thirries buildings were just more reliably

He also talks at length about Speer's achievements in warproduction, which were indeed considerable. Van der Vat remarks felicitously that Germans manage to be both excellent organisers and rather inefficient; the same, if you judge by longer-term goals. was true of Speer, but van der Vat's account of his management of the German war economy is very good. How could the Germans produce so much more war goods in 1944. under heavy bombardments, than in 1943? "Flow methods" and conscript labour had a great deal to do with it. It was

for the maitreatment of for-



Forced labour, some of it Jewish, did live in dreadful that he accepted guilt in a general way, but he had not conditions, not all of which were ascribable to Allied really known what was hap-pening to the Jews in the death bombing, However, the Final Soloution was executed in fits and starts, and although Speer camps - at least, not until very late in the day. How would unquestionably have could he live with that burden known about various arrocities, he could have been kept Norman Stone in the dark as to the amplitude of the whole thing. "Evasions" rather than "lies" would may-THE GOOD NAZI be be a more suitable word for The Life and Lies of

the title

when it came to voting Nazi:

the Catholics were much less

likely Nazis). I had vaguely

expected that Speer might

merit Benjamin Constant's

line about la fatuité d'un

esprit qui voudrait s'excuser

en «expliquant but there was

none of that. A very rum cove.

and in the manner of his

death, two - it was for an

assignation that he had really

come to London, and he had

explained to a friend that he

had had to wait until he was

over 70 to know what an erotic

experience really was. The

lady telephoned the reception-

ist to say that the old man had

had a stroke, and then the lady

vanished. A rum end for a very

enigmatic figure, whose mem-

European literature.

oirs are, nonetheless, part of

Albert Speer I conducted the last inter-By Dan van der Vat view that Speer ever did - it was for the BBC - and he died Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £20 ISBN 0-297-81721-3 shortly afterwards. We had had dinner the night before. and I found him quite open of guilt, asked Gitta Sereny. and remarkably lively about who knew him quite well and the Thirties in particular (he surprised me by not underwrote rather movingly about this. Van der Vat thinks that standing the depth of difference that existed between Speer was lying. Catholics and Protestants

e himself had had a part in deporting Jews from Berlin. but he suppressed the documentary evidence and even tried to fool the German Federal Archive. He was found out because an old associate kept the record and made it public when Speer, as he often did with people. behaved treacherously wards him. That is the burden of van der Vat's book: Speer was not a good guy after all. but a calculating Nazi believer who was just much, much more adept at handling Allied justice than the thugs who ere hanged.

I have a bone or two to pick - nothing serious, but why does an inexperienced writer such as van der Vat write ALISTAIR MCALPINE was an unlikely recruit to Margaret Thatcher's band of revolutionaries, for on the face of it he had all the qualifications to be a prime wet. Born wealthy thanks to the labours of his father and grandfather, he thought of his father's brickies as part of his extended family. He was an unashamed aesthete who collected everything from rag dolls to veterinary equipment. He had a grand house in Knightsbridge, complete with private cinema, and an even grander country house, West Green, not to mention homes in Australia

and Venice. In the Sixties he lived the life and held the sort of louche parties that Norman Tebbit now blames for the corruption of British society. He first slid into politics as an unthinking pro-European, raising money to fight for the Yes cause in the 1976 referendum. And yet, when the call came from Mrs Thatcher to serve, there he was, ready and eager. And there he remains, fighting her corner against the wimps, the traitors and appeasers.

Nicholas Thatcherites and subsequent-Wapshott ly undid her. And he is fiercely loyal to her because by mak-ONCE A JOLLY ing him a joint Tory party BAGMAN treasurer she gave him some thing useful to do for the first By Alistair McAlpine time in his life. Although by Weldenfeld & Nicolson, E20 ISBN 029781737X that time 32 years of age, as he puts it, "I had never been

> This memoir has been billed as a rival to the gloriously indiscreet Diaries of Alan Clark, but the comparison is unfair. Clark is an historian and man of ideas whose distaste for his fellow toffs is founded in a disdain for what they think. McAipine is a more simple character, a dabbler in politics, and he has written a revenger's tale. His main targets are not so

much those who objected to Lady Tumbledown and all her



The collector: McAlpine with ancient eel spears, 1983

Waltzing with Mrs T

offered a serious job before" and he remains grateful. So wee betide anyone who mistreats his benefactor. which, according to this glanc-ing account of life inside Mrs Finchley's bunker, includes many of her closest colleagues. And it is the traducing of his former muckers which makes this poisonous apologia such a joy to read.

Willie Whitelaw (who shored her up more than once) is condemned for hurting her; Geoffrey Howe (the architect of the caustic 1981 Budget) "irritated her beyond belief". Tristan Garel-Jones was a viper, Chris Patten greedy with oysters (and this from a trencherman whose gluttony led to a sextuple heart by-pass). Then "the only part about the recession that was shallow and short was its

cause -- Norman Lamont". But most despised of all is Jeffrey Archer. What can explain the passion behind this public garrotting? The myth about Archer is that he was a member of Thatcher's court. The fact is that he was not. As for Archer's fundraising abilities, they were negligible." And there's worse. "I only

hope, for the sake of Britain. that no politician, hearing only good of the man, mistakenly gives him again a job of any political consequence."

Major is dismissed as barely worth writing about. While this most clubbable of men. always ready for a breakfast or a lunch or a quick glass before dinner, condemns Major for assembling a "Cabinet of Churns", he takes at face value Mirs Thatcher's excuses for errors such as the poll tax. the Single European Act and her anointment of Major.

For all his closeness to Herself, when it came to policy she ignored him. Like many a political reporter, he suffered from the delusion that being allowed to witness power at close quarters is a form of power itself. But as those he mugs in these pages will conclude, he would understand electoral politics a lot better if he had been elected to something. Anything. Instead he has taken a commission in Sir James's ragbag army.

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■ AIR UK has a spring sale. One-way flights to destinations such as Amsterdam. Paris, Düsseldorf and Edinburgh cost £35, one-way flights to Copenhagen. Frankfurt, Milan. Munich and Zurich £49. Book 14 days ahead and no later than April b. Details: 0345 606777.

AER LINGUS has a Ello companion fare to Dublin with Cork and Shannon priced at £129. The price covers return travel for two people between April 7 and May 22. Details: 0181-569

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HOLIDAYS

HALF-BOARD accommodation in Sorrento for a week at £200 a person is available from Page & Moy. Fly from 01653 628862. Birmingham tomorrow. Details: 0116-250 7116.

■ EASTER in a villa overlooking Lake Orta in northern Italy is on offer at a discount from Lakes & Mountains Holidays. Priced from £122 a person a week, including Channel ferry crossing, and available from March 22 to April 5. Details: 01329 S44405.

■ DISCOUNTED green fees are available for golfers staying at Something Special villas in the Algarve. Price: £10^q a person for a week over Easter (flights extra): £248 a person after Easter, with flights and car hire. Details: 01992 552231.

■ MALTA for a week's selfcatering for £170 a person. with a flight from Manchester on April 3. Details: Going Places, 0541 555334.

HORSE-RIDING in Andalucia for a week, with a flight from Gatwick to Gibraltar on April 5, is on offer from

Inntravel. Price: £877 a person including full board at a riding centre with swimming pool and excursions. Details:

> ■ VIENNA and Budapest, linked by a Hydrofoil cruise down the Danube, feature in a four-night break from Time Off, available from April 5 and priced from £499 a person. Details: 0171-235 8070.

■ GOA for a fortnight for £429 a person in B&B accommodation is available from Cosmos. Fly from Garwick on April 12 Details: 0161-480

■ EAST COAST cities of the US and Niagara Falls are in-OS and Magara rails are included in a nine-day coach trip with Archers for £629 a person. The flight goes from Heathrow on April 15, Details: 0181-160 6745.

CRUISE discounts are available from Lunn Poly, including more than £1,000 off a 12-night Pacific cruise to Ha-waii and Honolulu. Fly from Heathrow on April 22. Details from Lunn Poly Holiday



Seychelles beach hotel holidays for £699 a person for 12 nights in April are available from Tropical Places. Flights from Gatwick or Manchester. Details: 01342 825123.

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■ OAKLEY COURT Hotel.

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of themed weekends - includ-

ing sports weekends, such as a

two-night fishing break from

5209 a person, or a visit to

nearby Legoland from £146 a

person for two nights includ-

ing theme park entry. Details: 01753 609988.

■ THE Drury Lane Moat House near Covent Garden in

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night offer until April 6 of £100 a person instead of the usual

138. Extra nights cost 50 a person. Offer available

through Highlife Breaks. De-mils: 0800 700400.

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■ EXECUTIVE travellers who join Regal Hotel's business-class corporate rates programme will get lower rates and a 10 per cent discount on other charges, such as food. beverages and phone calls. Details: 01635 527600.

FORTE Village in Sardinia is reopening at Easter with a three night package from £300 a person, excluding flights. The package includes sports and spa activities. Details: 00 39 70921 516. ■ LATE EASTER availability

at the Landmark Hotel, near Marylebone Station, London, means a £149-a-night room rate, with free valet parking, over the holiday weekend. Details: 0171-631 8000.

SUMMER packages from the Peninsular Hotels Group. available from June 15 until September 15, include a 20 per

SEA FRANCE has joined its Dover rivals in extending its advance-hooking deals, of-fering any 1997 Calais return for CS9, for bookings before March 31. Valid for a car and up to five passengers, Details: 0990 711711.

BRITTANY FERRIES has a new ro.95 fare for foot passengers to France, allowing up to 24 hours on shore. Cars cost an extra £10. Available until May 15, excluding Easter, Details: 0990 360360.

IRISH Ferries has cut daytime prices to £50 each way on its Pembroke-Rosslare route for a car and five passengers, until May 21 (excluding Easter). Night crossings cost £49. Details: 0345 171717.

■ SWANSEA Cork Ferries has a £155 midweek return, for a car and five adults, for travel by May 21 (excluding Easter). Details: 01792-450116.

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has nine nights in a leisure park in Holland from El70 a person, using the Newcastle-Amsterdam route on April 3. Details: 0990 333111.

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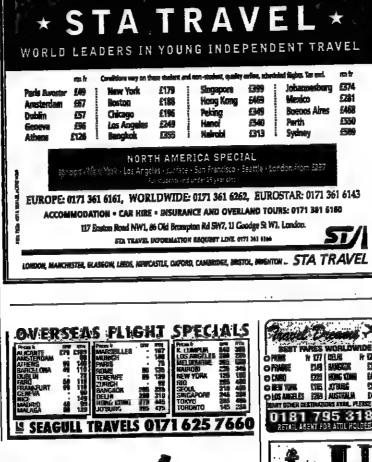
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ONSATURDAY

- 11<u>--</u>-Leve Seur Weekend Trees. ادو = چ In the state of

. Travel show previews new British attractions

BY TONY DAWE

THE FIRST glimpse of ambitious new tourist attractions expected to woo visitors in their millions could be seen yesterday as leaders of the British travel industry celebrated its new buoyancy.

The £15 million National Centre for Popular Music in Sheffield and the £16 million National Glass Centre in Sunderland were previewed at the British Travel Trade Fair at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham.

The projects reflect the vast amount of investment being ploughed into tourism, much of it coming from National Lottery funds. More than 500 exhibitors are displaying their attractions, including Alton Towers, which unveiled its latest white-knuckle ride called Ripsaw, and Wedg-wood, which plans a new Visitor Experience for next

Several exhibitors showed plans for millennium projects. among them the £112 million Portsmouth Harbour scheme which will provide the city with waterfront museums and attractions, and the £34 million Earth Centre in the Dearne Valley of South York-

Scores of tourist boards are also taking part, including Bronte Country Tourism. which vesterday launched plans for Great British Literary Tours, and Worthing council, which revealed details of a Victorian Seaside Festival this August.

They are all attempting to impress the thousands of tour operators, many from overseas, who are visiting the fair, which continues today. Fiona Jeffery, the exhibition director, said: "Anyone seeking inspiration for tours anywhere in Britain will be impressed by the wide range of upgraded products and the new visitor attractions planned for the

The variety of attractions mderline the continued growth of tourism, one of Bri- unmissable destination".

tain's booming industries. Latest figures from the International Passenger Survey show that the number of overseas visits to Britain increased to 26 million last year, a rise of 8 per cent, Domestic tourism is also growing: the number of trips this year is expected to increase by between 2 and 3 per cent.

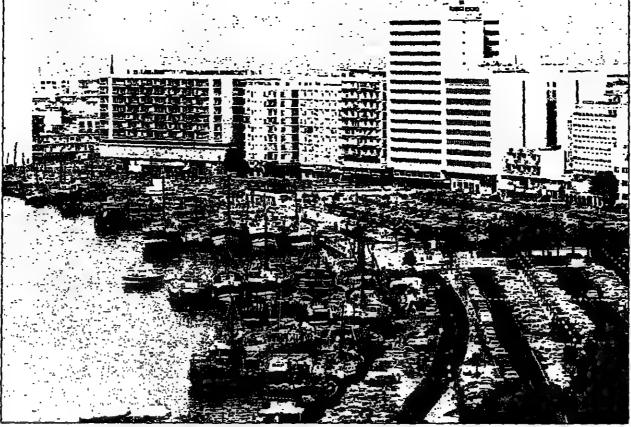
While London, York and Stratford-upon-Avon continue to attract the bulk of overseas tourists and the West Country remains the favourite destination for British travellers, leaders of the travel industry in Scotland and Wales also report increases in the number of visitors.

Ian Grant, the Scottish Tourist Board's chairman. said yesterday that the country was "winning the battle" to attract visitors, especially the English, out of season. He added: "It is clear that our campaigns, together with the support of the trade, are producing tangible results. Scotland is now known as a short-break leisure and business destination throughout the year; it is recognised as offering style, culture and quality.

John French, the Wales Tourist Board chief executive, said: "Tourism in Wales is experiencing an exciting time, with a 31 per cent increase in overseas visitors in the first half of last year.

The industry is gaining in confidence, announcing new products at the fair, including the Festival Park factory shopping complex at Ebbw Vale, the Welsh Gold Visitor Centre in Dolgellau and the National Cycle Exhibition at Llandrin-

He said that the European summit in Cardiff next year and the Rugby World Cup in 1999 would put the country in the world spotlight. Investment in new hotels and attractions, including the National Botanic Garden, would, he claimed, make Wales "an



New hotels, including what will be the tallest in the world, are being built to cope with Dubai's thriving tourist trade

Dubai hotels reach for the sky in battle for tourists

bored with the Mediterranean and the Caribbean are turning to the travel industry's favourite holiday destination — Dubai.

The tiny Gulf state, which regularly tops the travel trade's internal league table of the most popular places to visit, is in such demand that new hotels - including what will become the tallest in the world -- are being built along the shoreline.

"Until now we have concentrated on the business traveller, building the infrastructure and educating the travel industry on what we have to offer," says Patrick MacDonald, deputy chief executive of tourism and commerce for Dubai. "But we have come of age and matured, so now we can provide

for the holidaymaker and the leisure traveller." More than 40 British tour operators feature Dubai in their summer brochures, and locals are convinced that within the next five years the Emirate could become one of awards from travel publica-

By HARVEY ELLIOTT IN DUBAL

tions

and organisations

around the world, is expand-

ing to meet the surge in

"About 75 per cent of our

revenue now comes from the

economy section of our air-

craft," says Maurice Flana-

gan, managing director of

Emirates. "Many of these are business travellers who are no

longer allowed to fly in busi-ness class because their com-

pany wants to save money on

travel expenses. That is why

we have decided to put a

telephone and video equip-

ment in every seat, whatever

the class of travel, and to give

passengers more leg room

than our competitors. But

with the Government's plan

to ensure that the country is

not dependent on oil, we are

turning more and more to-

wards meeting the demands

Sport has been the major

of tourism.

demand for flights.

grounds". Tourism accounts for 12 per cent of Dubai's gross national product and is growing fast. Oil on which the country was founded, now provides only 18 per cent of its income and is still shrinking. It is predicted that within five years tourism will have overtaken oil as the most important sector of the economy.

the world's leading "play-

Last year 110,000 visitors arrived from Britain, most of them aged over 40. But the fastest-growing numbers of tourists are from the former Soviet Union, India, Pakistan and other Arab states.

"We are already recognised as the main tourism centre for this region but now we are extending into the rest of the world," says Mr MacDonald.

The state has an "open skies" policy and 80 international airlines now operate the Dubai route.

attraction for high-spending visitors. Some of the most The country's airline. Emirates, which consistently wins prestigious events from golf to tennis are held in Dubai, and

horse race - the Dubai World Cup - will be watched by 20,000 people in the stadium and at least a billion on

television in 197 countries. Thirteen of the fastest horses from Britain, the Continent, Japan. Australia, Brazil, America and Dubai have been entered for the race, which carries prize money of \$4 million - but with no betting allowed on the outcome anywhere in Dubai.

Building is going on every-where as Dubai grows to meet the surge in demand. The biggest development is the Chicago Beach resort, where 600 rooms are due to open next year. The complex includes a 1,059ft-high hotel built in the shape of a dhow under sail, which will be linked to the beach by a bridge. The hotel is expected to prove particularly popular with wealthy Arab visitors.

"We believe that the Chicago beach tower will become a symbol of Dubai as the Eiffel Tower is a symbol of Paris."

Duty-free end worries the big suppliers

airports

routes

AS THE Cheltenham Festival was taking place in perfect weather last week, a disgruntled man from Guinness - one of the event's main sponsors -- was having to attend a London press conference to talk about duty-free sales.

Missing the races did not especially worry him. The galling thing was that he could tell no one really understood or cared about the disaster — the ending of duty-free sales - that many in the travel, drinks, tobacco, perfumes and other associated industries are convinced is just around the

Obviously, Guinness has a vested interest in maintaining the perk, which is enjoyed by more than 30 million British

travellers and Regional holidaymakers each year. As the owner of such well-known brands as Johnand ferry nie Walker, Bells. Dewars and Gorstands to lose might be tens of millions of pounds. And it is threatened not alone in its

opposition to the regulations. The to do so. So we visit to the duty-free shop at did our own research." either end of the journey or the last-minute present bought during the return flight has become an integral pert of any trip within Europe. But in July 1999, in the interests of harmony within Europe, such visits

will be banned. The experts predicted last week that the move would cost the Treasury at least El8 million a year, destroy 1,500 jobs. hit manufacturing and retail profits by up to £345 million and put regional airports at risk.

In a detailed survey of the likely effects of the planned abolition of intra-European duty-free sales from July 1999, the European Travel Research Foundation says that the myth that duty-free sales are no more than a subsidy to travellers is destroyed.

The study was commissioned by the Duty Free Con-

Travel Business HARVEY

federation which represents airports, airlines, lerry companies and the entire British duty-free industry, which now has sales worth more than £1 billion a year.

The decision in 1991 to phase out the concession was meant to come into force a year later. But ministers agreed to postpone implementation until 1999,

Barry Goddard, the confederation's secretary-general, says: "There is no justification for it, and the

out forward in its favour is that it is inconsistent with the single market. Amazingly, the European Commission has not yet studied what impact it would make on the different

member countries, despite repeated promises

The first report concentrates only on the economic impact on Treasury "take". But early indications from parallel studies indicate that many ferry routes would be put in financial danger, the regional airports that rely on duty-free sales to keep down landing fees might be threatened by the additional costs and that passengers especially on holiday charter flights - would have to pay up to E15 each to cover the lost revenue.

Copies of the first report have already been sent to the Conservative and Labour parties and officials and MPs throughout Europe.

The man from Guinness and his colleagues fear that little notice will be taken. After all, nothing will happen for more than two years. too far in the future for most politicians or civil servants to worry about.

Prices halved as ferry war rages

BY STEVE KEENAN

BRITTANY Ferries halved prices on selected cross-Channel fares from West Country ports.

The move comes as a price war out of Dover continues to rage. Sea France this week offered any 1997 crossing for E89, undercutting rival fares already two-thirds cheaper than last summer's peak.

Brittany's managing direc-tor lan Carrathurs said the decision to slash prices was aimed at filling off-peak ferries. The market to France is in fact buoyant, he said. Standard return fares from

Portsmouth. Poole and Plymouth are £140 for a car and up to five passengers, compared with brochure prices of up to

Carrathurs claimed 1997 bookings were up by 25 to 26 per cent, with the Plymouth-Roscoff route up by 30

Sea France became the latest ferry operator this week to extend early booking offers, with its 689 fare valid for any 1997 Dover-Calais crossing as long as it is booked by the end of the month.

P&O is offering any 1997 crossing on Dover-Calais for £145 until April 30, while Hoverspeed is quoting £99 on the route for bookings by March 31.

Le Shuttle has a £149 fare for bookings by the end of the month and Stena Line has knocked 25 per cent off brochure fares for bookings made by the same time.



Ulster special What's new in European theme parks Weekend break: Iceland Travel in Turkey In the Amazon rainforest Ski by Eurostar



Endeavour's royal arrival

THE QUEEN and the Duke of Edinburgh will visit the £8 million replica of Captain Cook's ship Endeavour when she arrives in London next week from Australia.

Sightseers will be able to see the 18th-century style square rigger on Tuesday at 1.45pm and 215pm when she sails down the Thames and under Tower Bridge, firing her cannons, before anchoring at St George's stairs near Butler's Wharf, opposite the Tower.

The Queen and the Duke. who is president of the Endeavour Foundation, which built the ship from original plans kept at the National Maritime Museum, will go aboard on Wednesday and meet the 52-strong crew from Britain, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. Some By RONALD GRIBBLE

of them have been on the ship since she left Fremantle. Australia, live months ago.

The Endeavour will be open to the public at Greenwich from March 28 to April 13. before beginning a six-month 12-point tour of the UK. The ship will be dressed with artefacts as if Captain Cook and his crew had gone ashore. Visitors will be able to see the canditions under which Cook's pioneering voyages of

exploration were made. To coincide with Endeavour's arrival at Greenwich, the National Maritime Museum is to stage a Captain Cook exhibition in the Queen's House from next Monday to September 28 and unveil a Cook statue in the grounds.

 The Endeavour's UK itiner Great Yarmouth (April 19-28)

Boston (May 2-5) Whitby (May 10-18) Leith. Edinburgh (May 24-June I)

Inverness Dune 7-15) Greenock (June 28-July 6) Liverpool (July 11-20) Fishguard (July 2n-August 3) Falmouth (August 9-17) Plymouth (August 23-31) Weymouth (September 6-9) Brighton (September 13-21)

Afterwards the Endeavou leaves for a nine-day exhibi-tion at St Helier, Jersey (September 27-October 5) and in St Malo (October 7-12), before returning to Plymouth on Friday October 17. She will then he refurbished before preparing for a voyage to the

Airport food wins prizes

EGON RONAY, long-time scourge of motorway stations and British institutional catering, has a new vocation, weighing croissants and Danish pastries at British airports. Mr Ronay now operates an inspection service for BAA, the

airport operator The results of his researches were announced last week at Claridge's, West London, of

awards to the outlet that supplied the lightest, most flavoursome example of each pastry: the BA lounge. Glasgow, for the lightest croissant, and Metro. Heathrow's Terminal 3, for the lightest and most flavoursome Danish. Mr Ronay, veteran Public

Stomach Number One, now

for BAA, the airport operator. Other awards went to Harry Ramsden's for the most appensing breakfast at Terminal I Heathrow, and for best chips, served at the chain's Glasgow Airport branch, Pret a Manger at Terminal 1 Heathrow took the title for tasnest sandwich with its Thai Chicken compilation.

EXCLUSIVE OFFER AND COMPETITION THE SEE TIMES

Win a course to become an interior designer

Times readers have the chance to I win a five-day Paint Magic course run by Jocasta Innes called Becoming a Decorator. The popular course, which is held every month, usually costs £530. The course is introduced by Jocasta

Innes, widely known for her innovative approach to interior decorating and paint effects, and taught by her team of experts. You learn practical skills, what equipment to invest in, advice on setting up your own business, how to design



your portfolio and quote for jobs. For your nearest Paint Magic shop please call 0171-354 9696.

HOW TO ENTER

Phone our hotline 0839 444 546 with your answer to: Which BBC homes programme is Jocasta Innes on? a) Home Front b) House Detectives c) Changing Rooms



The line is open until midnight tonight. Winners will be chosen at random from all correct entries. Normal TNL rules apply. 0839 calls cost 50p per minute. See tomorrow's Times for exquisite kilim stools.

FREE tickets for the BBC Good Homes Show

Plus a £10,000 Miele fitted kitchen to be won

The Times offers you a FREE ticket, worth at least £7.50, for the first ever BBC Good Homes Show at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, from



April 9-13. Collect three differently numbered tokens and send them, with a stamped sae marked on the front with which day you wish to attend and the application form which will appear again on Saturday. Your name will automatically be entered into a prize draw to win the Miele kitchen, left.

Among the many live performances you can see inthe Lloyds Bank Insurance Direct Celebrity Theatre are designers from Changing Rooms who will demonstrate speedy tricks for room makeovers, Home Front's Jocasta Innes and Tessa Shaw will put you on the inside track for a speedy sale at the right price, and House Detectives Judith Miller, David Austen and Mac Dowdy will help you to unlock the

secret past life of your home. Call 0121 767 4000 to pre-book theatre and show admission tickets. (For a Miele brochure call 01235 554488.1

THE BBC GOOD HOMES SHOW **TOKEN 4**

CHANGING TIMES

Ballesteros likely to win vote over Ryder Cup reform

AFTER months of relentless and, at times, curt refusal to talk about the Europe Ryder Cup team that he will captain against the United States at Valderrama in September, Severiano Ballesteros broke his self-imposed silence yesterday to give his trankest thoughts yet on the composi-

time that Ballesteros is not happy with the present system, under which ten players will earn their way into the team as of right, leaving him with only two wild card selections. Perhaps it was the warmth of the Canary Islands sun that led him to such forthrightness, but it was a blunt Ballesteros who spoke of his desire to have the best Europe team, while behind his

readiness to ruffle the feathers something out of it." Ballesof even some of European

addition to those who earn their places off the money-list.

Davies strides out to make it four in a row

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES IN PHOENIX, ARIZONA

aged a quad.

here has to run out."

There must be a law to

support that theory — and Karrie Webb and Annika

Sorenstam, who have thwart-

started the season well - but,

Davies also said: "I've never

'Last week it was a miracle

been hitting the ball better.

of sport not to make the cut. I

but holed nothing." In the

second round, she had a nine

at the loth, a par-five where

her second shot but put three

balls into the water and holed

from 20 feet for her quadruple

prove more omen than omi-

nous — the last time Davies

missed the cut in Tucson was

That particular quad could

A LOT of people, not just goifers, would like to be in Laura Davies's shoes. Last year, she won nine tournamillion worldwide, bought herself a red Ferrari (secondhand), entertained and impressed big galleries from Tokyo to Tennessee to Thame, was player of the year on the Ladies' Professional Golf Association (LPGA) Tour in the United States and leading money-winner on the American Express Tour in

The woman has style, class. fans everywhere she goes and, apparently, zero clout when it comes to selling cleats. In the first quarter to August 1996, the company that pays Tiger Woods many millions to wear its little tick recorded profits of \$226.1 million [E143 million). Its worldwide revenues rose 34 per cent to \$2.28 billion. Last year, it offered Davies \$5,000 to wear its

In the American idiom, she tempted. "I thought it best for my golf not to accept," she said, with some sarcasm. "I mean, it would have changed my whole lifestyle — I'd have been buying aeroplanes and

"I'd worn their shoes for five or six years and been part of their bonus pool, but then I thought it was silly not to have a shoe contract. Now, I don't even buy their other shoes any 1996.

golf's more exotic species.

Turespaña Masters, that starts today here at Maspalo-Ballesteros said that he had mas. "I don't think it's unfair spoken to Mark James, the to change the system, but chairman of the PGA Euroobviously it's going to be more pean Tour's tournament comdifficult to finish in the top mittee, the body that repreeight than the top ten in the sents the rank and file members, requesting that James It would not be fair to should ask the players if they change the rules in July or would approve Ballesteros August after many big tournahaving up to four selections in

A players' meeting was held during the Portuguese Open last week, at which it is understood that the feeling was in favour. About 200 European tournament profes-sionals are now to be balloted, with the captain being given

That statement might be seen as an indirect admonition, in particular, to Nick Faldo, who has said that he will not be playing the minimum number of 11 qualifying tournaments to earn his way in. However, it can be be no more than sabre-rattling — no matter what Ballesteros It is not for lack of effort or thinks of players who refuse achievement on Davies's part. point-blank to try to win a place in the team, it would be Today, she is in Phoenix, Arizona, attempting to win inconceivable for him to leave the Standard Register Ping Faldo out. tournament at Moon Valley

we're only halfway through

[the selection process]. It's very

Valderrama is a very diffi-

cult golf course that demands

special players, and I don't

want people getting a place in the team in ninth or tenth

place just by playing every week. Extra picks would give

me the scope to select - but

maybe later on I would go straight through the top 12."

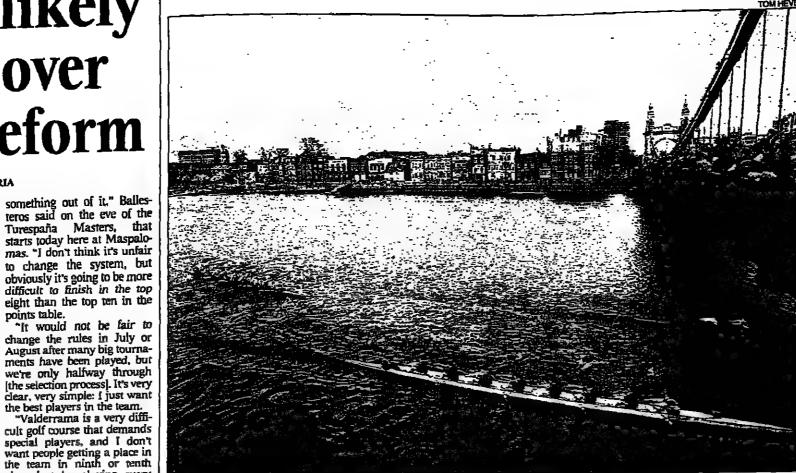
The only rule is that it is 12 for the fourth successive year. men against 12," Ballesteros Louise Suggs, Sandra Haynie and Kathy Whitworth, all members of the Hall of Fame, said. "I don't really care about the American side's rules. I only care about my responsiwon a tournament three times bility to have the best team to in a row but no player on the LPGA Tour has ever manplay for Europe." Faldo concurs. "Something needs to be Davies, who missed the cut done," he said yesterday. "The in Tucson last week, plays bottom line is that we must down her chances. "It can't have the strongest team." keep on," she said. "My luck

If Ballesteros's plans are approved by the players — the ballot form is being prepared — it would help him to avoid the sort of hiatus that occurred before the 1995 match. Bernard Gallacher, the captain, ed the odd Davies dream in selected Nick Faldo and José the past two years, have María Olazábal, but omitted Ian Woosnam before Olazábal's foot problems, then in their early stages, led him to

> WOOSDAM brought back into the team. but the fact remained that the captain was forced by the players out of his original line-

> Europe won the last Ryder Cup match in spite of the rules, not because of them, and it is now up to Europe's tournament professionals to help Ballesteros to put matters

St Edward's prove head masters



Spectators jostle for the best view as the crews go under Hammersmith Bridge in the Schools Head yesterday

waters of Oxford, survived the Tideway snatch the Schools Head title from St Paul's by one second (Mike Rosewell writes). High winds prompted the organisers to abandon the youngest age groupings but this still left 273 crews to face the strong head winds at the start and an unsettling tail wind at the finish.

Bill Sayer, returning as the St Edward's first-eight coach after a break of six years, kept instructions simple.
"Push hard through the difficult patch and then build it up," Sayer told his crew. Starting seventh, St Edward's had more close company in their row than St Paul's, whose new coach, Andy May-

field, inherited the first starting place. St Paul's, with the junior intern Dan Snow and Dan Ouseley, in the engine-room, moved steadily away from Eton, the 1995 winners, who dropped to eighth, their lowest placing for many

The runners-up were seven seconds clear of Hampton and Abingdon, who shared third place. Their respective coaches, Martin Orviss and Michael Martin, both supervised leading British junior crews last summer, the latter taking the Britain junior eight to a

Reinforcing the Oxford-based success of St Edward's and Abingdon. Radley, whose coach. Angus McChesney, has

been receiving help from the Cambridge coaches, Donald Legget and Harry Mahon, moved up to fifth. Radley's future looks bright with wins for their third eight and the flagship junior los. Lady Eleanor Holles and Kingston

Grammar once again beaded the wom en's eights. Holles took the title, won last year by Kingston, by two seconds - the same margin as in the longer Women's Head a fortnight ago. King's Canter-bury produced the outstanding women's quad of the day, 50sec ahead of their the school's boys' first eight, withdrew after a pre-race collision.

RUGBY UNION: LOUGHBOROUGH FAIL ONCE MORE AT FINAL HURDLE

Brunel's lineout engineers victory

Brunel Univ College... Loughborough Univ...... 8

> BY DAVID HANDS RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

LOUGHBOROUGH University, so often the champions of student rugby, have lost the knack of winning finals. A year ago they were edged out by the hard-headed Welshmen of Cardiff Institute in the sociation championship final, and at Twickenham yesterday they lost by a point when they should have won.

They had ample opportunity to do so, but Stuart Moffat. the scorer of the game's only try, had left his kicking boots in the Midlands. Of six penalty attempts, he could convert only one, and, though Alan Buzza's conversion attempt of the try drifted wide, his kickright before it is too late.

smoother than that of Moffat that Loughborough will regret not having changed kickers

Yet it was in keeping with the match that, having forced a lineout 15 metres from the Brunel University College line Loughborough promptly lost the throw. The lineout was their Achilles' heel, ruled as it was by Danny Zaltzman, from from Bath. The sadness for Brunel — who, as Borough Road Institute, won the final two years ago - was that they could not expand their game.

Instead, they chose to drive close to ruck and maul, playing into the hands of the powerful Loughborough back row. Only once, midway through the second half, did the Brunel forwards genuinely

line, but by then Lough-borough had established some lineout organisation and were able to clear.

These are trying times for student rugby, the better players invariably being snapped up by clubs and playing for their universities only intermittently, and it showed yesterday. There was a lack of snap and sparkle, and of the pace that was so frequently. associated with Loughborcredit, they tried to move the ball wide from the start, but found themselves turned over and forced to back-pedal.

Harvey's early penalty goal for Brunel was marched by Moffat before the interval and when the latter joined the line in the third quarter, Brunel's defenders stood off respectfully and allowed him to career 40 metres to the line. However threaten the Loughborough Harvey's second goal nar-

with five minutes remaining gave them the slimmest of winning margins.

University

Molist

BRUNEL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE: D Dun

US: R Femilia (Walton HS) wichi, itarer replaced by Assopouate (Malifeld, 28mm); Francis replaced by P. Mongan (Percoad CS, 57); C. Tytherieligh (Teddington) temporary replacement for Fodgers (42-44).

LOUGHBOROUGH UNIVERSITY: B. Miller Motati (Edirburch Assetemy); N. Miller

LOUGHBOROUGH UNIVERSITY: 8
Mofilet (Editorigh Academy): N Miller
(Stratiford GS), A Buza (Redrum CS). 9
Brocklethunet (Sevenoaks), N Makione
(Wells Cathedral): N Osman (King Edward
V). Southampton. captain), A Dart (King's,
Taunton): R Tamant (Blocham). R
Protherough (King's, Woroessay). E Webb
(Stram), J Beandshaw (Gresnam's), W
Fuller (Eton). R White (Bryanston). R
Withorn (Haywerds Heath College), G
Webster (Dundle). Terrant replaced by
8 Beauloy (Wyggaston and Queen Elizabath, 51).

IN BRIEF **England** secure matchplay finale

SO PREDICTABLE was the play in the women's home international bowls series at Perth yesterday, that the greatest excitement was generated by the draw for rinks in the morning team match between Scotland and Wales (David Rhys Jones writes). Big wins, as expected, for England, the defending champions, and Scotland, served merely to set up an intriguing "knock-out" play-off for the title today.

The day's main talking point was the way in which the draw placed all six Scottish fours on the same rinks that they had occupied against Ireland the day before, giving them, critics said, a distinct advantage. Officials, however, were quick to point out that the draw was above board, having been made by the secretaries of the two compet-

ing countries. Scotland overwhelmed a weak Wales side 144-94, but England, just as Scotland had on Tuesday, found Ireland slightly more troublesome op-ponents, before securing a 131-103 victory.

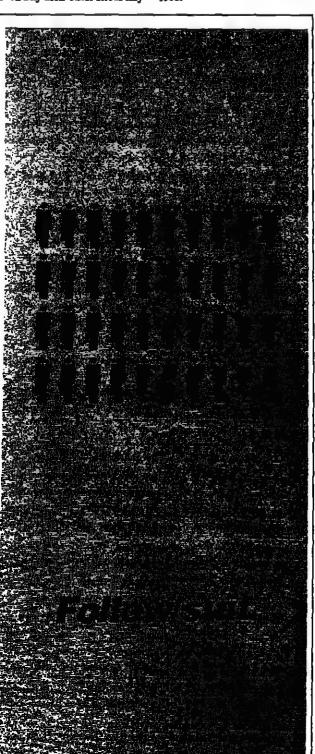
☐ Gotf: José Maria Olazabal. of Spain, has accepted an invitation to compete in the European round of the Andersen Consulting world champ-ionship of golf. Olazabal is the eighth and final seed for the tournament to be held at the Buckinghamshire Golf Club in Denham on May 19 and 20. □ Nigel Mansell, the former Formula One world champion, and John Putt lost 2 and I in the second round of the Sunningdale Foursomes yesterday to Andrew Reynolds and Andrew Hall.

☐ Ice hockey. There are no surprises in the squad of 23 named by Peter Woods, the Great Britain coach, for the pool B game of the world championships to be held in Poland next month. In spite of Woods's pledge to bring in Britain failed to qualify for the Olympic Games earlier this year, the emphasis is still on veterans and dual-nationals.

☐ Rugby union: England's prospects of retaining their Rugby World Cup sevens title in Hong Kong dimmed yesterday with an injury doubt surrounding Mike Catt. Catt, the Bath stand-off half, will undergo a fitness test today on the injury that he sustained in a gentle run-out soon after England arrived on Monday.

☐ Speedway: Belie Vue have signed Kelvin Tatum, a former world finalist and England captain, as an early season stand-in. Tatum, 33, has agreed to a short-term Sam Ermolenko, the 1993 world champion, who is recovering from a broken leg.

The control of the co



SUNNINGBALE FOURSOMES

RECOND RICLIND: New Counter G Smith (Camberley Health) and W Riley (Aus) bt T Ealan (Nesan) and A Rodgers (Costa Azul 6 and 8 T Carantly Jurattacher) and D Crention (Transity Jurattacher) and D Crention (Transity Jurattacher) and D Crention (Transity Jurattacher) and D Crention (Theoretical County) and European (Method 1) and Lipyden (Chartram Pari) 6 and 4 D Griffins (West Herts) and A France (St Mealon) of C Undson (Murrayfeld) and K Herrah (Berktmasted) 3 and 2 S Little (Moor Park) and 5 Jamen (Woloum) bt G Stewart (Real Cub) and J Forbes (WPGET) 5 and 4. A Reynolds (Royal Croup Ports) and A Hell Sand Marins) bt J Put (Surningdale) and N Mansel (Woodbury Park) 2 and 1, 5 Gallagher (Trentram Park) and R Richer Newcastle-under-Lyme) b B Marchbank (Muchathard, Golf Enterpress) and W Marchbank (Auchtenuder) 3 and 2 G Redderd and M Haste (Tumberty) bt A Clark, (Od Fold Marrod) and N Lamerce (Al Driving Hange) 1 hole: M Parline (Mit Rodgerson (Lindheld) at 20th, R Hurst (Linehteck) and Chustoni 2 and 1 N Butter (Homitam) and W Gran (Chessington) by Person (Leatherbeach) by M Sacrib (Livre Regist) and 2 Dourder (Yeavil) 3 and 2 C Detoy and W Delay (Coombe Hell) bt S Roberts and C Coombes (Bergoed) 2 and 1, A Good and R Summerstake (Forth Hell) bt S Roberts and C Coombes (Bergoed) 2 and 1 A Good and R Summerstake (Forth Hell) bt S Roberts and C Coombes (Bergoed) 2 and 1 A Good and R Summerstake (Forth Hell) bt S Roberts and C Coombes (Bergoed) 3 and 3 the Marray (Coomber Hell) bt S Roberts and C Coombes (Bergoed) 5 and 4 Hurst (Mannot of Groves) 3 and 1 the Marray (Coomber Hell) bt S Roberts and C Coombes (Bergoed) 5 and 4 Hurst (Mannot of Groves) 3 and 1 the Marray (Coomber Hell) bt S Roberts and C Coombes (Bergoed) 5 and 4 Hurst (Mannot of Groves) 3 and 1 the Marray (Coomber Hell) bt S Roberts and C Coombes (Bergoed) 5 and 4 Hurst (Mannot of Groves) 3 and 1 the Marray (Mannot of Groves) 3 and 1 the Marray (Mannot of Groves) 3 and 1 the Maray (Mannot of Marring) 4 and 5 Bottley and A Bottley (Marring) 4 and 3 Posen and D Burreste (Almeer Hoot) 2 and 1 | Rear Bury) and D Mackimson (Reimboot) in M Newmand (Marnings Health) and A Bott (Lichook) 3 and 2 P Sherman (Ashlord) and P Page (Dartiond) bt J Chillus (Stenevie) and M Gray (Lechbark) 2 holes, I Parker and M Thompson (Femdown) bt C Pantan-Levas (Macchinates) and M Devetta (Surringdole) 1 hole. M James (Barssland Downs) and C Rodgers (Royal Med-Surrey) bt W Stophers (Mindesham) and M Geres function) and 1 harmson and J Doherty (Warthings) bt J Chillen (Clea Nova) and C Chaffen (Stoke Pages) 5 and 4, J Hall (Lechbark) 2 and 1 Novases (James M Patrin) and M Geres function) and 6 McGolvern (Healthor) bt M Fernandon (Morces et al., J Hall (Lechbark) and J Chaffen (Stoke Pages) 5 and 4, J Hall (Lechbark) and J Chaffen (Mindes) 2 and 1 L Overse (Royal Dubin) and 8 McGolvern (Healthor) bt M J Hustandon (Mindesham) 1 Jones (Shifeld) bt S Geery and C Duffy (Maddenhead) 5 and 3. R Else and M Naylor (Raddiffs-on-Trent) bt M Fernandon (Mindesham) bt M Fernandon (Mindesham) bt M Fernandon (Mindesham) bt G Edge (Mossley) and T Allen (Masslatke Park) 2 holes

THERD ROUND: Ott Courser: Smath and Fley

Open favourites fall on first day THE Open tournament, the Rosslyn Park departure from the tournament. The Somerset

schools sevens' most prestigious event, began yesterday, with mixed fortunes for the pretournament favourites (a Correspondent

Stonyhurst, the holders from Lancashire, failed to progress from the group stages after losing 19-12 to Wallington Grammar School and 24-10 to Campion, Essex.

side, seven times champions, were overrun 47-0 by a powerful Durham team. It was finals day in the junior and

preparatory schools tournaments. Caldicott, from Buckinghamshire, confirmed their reputation as the pre-eminent prep school team, beating Wolborough Hill, from Devon, 19-12, while Donhead heat Manchester Grammar Another surprise was Millfield's premature School 21-5 in the junior final.

RESULTS FROM THE ROSSLYN PARK SCHOOLS SEVENS

Thomas Picton 7 Rydal 40; Solitual 5 St. Thomas Billion 8 Billion

Monmouth CS 38; De Aston D Hawfrom 20; De Aston 14 Monmouth CS 29, Brothoure 7 Mount St Mary's 45; Monmouth CS 20 Hawfrom 22 De Aston 19 Mount St Mary's 22; Monmouth CS 5 Mount St Mary's 22; Brothoure 12 Hawfrom 19 GROUP G: Hampton 14 City of London Freemen 12; Shambrook 14 Ampletont 21 City of London Freemen 30 Newcastle-under-Lyme 0; Chy of London Freemen 35 Shambrook 14 Hampton 21 Ampletonth 14, Hampton 25 Newcastle-under-Lyme 0; Chy of London Freemen 35 Shambrook 0; Newcastle-under-Lyme 14 Ampletonth 54 Hampton 45 Shambrook 5, Newcastle-under-Lyme 16 Shambrook 5, Newcastle-under-Lyme 17 Chaise-hust and Sidoup wo St Edmund's, Ware; Warweck 28 Mothorpham HS 24; Hymers wo 51 Edmund's, Hymers 17, Warweck 26; Chaistenund and Sidoup 10; Chaistenund's and Sidoup 10; Chaistenund and Sidoup 11; St Januard's CRECUP 1; Kino's Mancelesfield 17; St Januard's CRECUP 1; Chaistenund 1; Amarica 1; A CREMENTS King's, Macclesfield 17 St Joseph's, Ipswich 34, Meidstone GS 5 RGS High Mycombe 28, St Joseph's 56 Adams GS 0, King's, Macclesfield 28 RGS High Wecombe 12; Ming's, Macclesfield 43 Adams GS

Macclesifield 29 Mardistone GS 5, Adams GS
10 Mardistone GS 61, St. Joseph's SB RGS
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10 Mindstone GS 61, St. Joseph's SB RGS
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Mindstone College 38, Part vio Emanuet
Mindstone College 24 Minds GS 10, Ming
Edward VIII, Lytham 21 Emanuel 12, King
Edward VIII, Lytham 21 Emanuel 13, King
Edward VIII, Lytham 21 Emanuel 13, Wimbledon College vio Part. Wimal GS 34, WimbleMindstone SS 17, Durfmam 38, King
Edward VI 33, King Herny VIII 20, Shodes 7
Durfmam 36, King Edward VI 14 Durfmam 47,
Reigate GS 29 King Herny VIII 10
GROUP It. Merchant Taylors', Licerpool 35 St
Clave's, Kerni 26, Liandovery 19 Maitheld 38; St
Clave's 22 John Claveland 21, Morchant
Taylors' 17 Millied 25, Merchant Taylors' 22
John Claveland 19 Millied 34; Merchant
Taylors' 22 John Claveland 31, Merchant
Taylors' 35, Clave's 10 Millied 36
GROUP It. Clavel 19 Millied 36, GROUP It. Clavel 19 Millied 36

SI. Ambrose 7 Judd 43; St George's wo Bearwood KNOCKOUT STAGES (group withers' matches? Campion 34 Neath 7; Coopers Co and Cobum 10 St Echaer(s, Liverpool 36, John Fisher 40 Hawthorne 6; Hampton 31 Notangham 29; St Joseph's, Ipsakich 40 Wimbledon 12- Durham 47 Matthet 0; Etham 38 St Cyres 7; Dr Chaltoners 21 Glantal 35 CNARTER-RINAL ORAW; Campion v St Edward's, Liverpool John Fisher v Hompton, St Joseph's v Durham, Etham v Glantal

Condon Cratory of Besseting 36 Menchester GS 7
GROUP O, Tasker Mithrand GS Dr Chafforner's
28. Gordano wo Dentland GS, Dr Chafforner's
40 Old Swinford Hospital 12: Tasker Mithward 19 Old Swinford GS 33: Tasker Mithward 19 Old Swinford Hospital 12: Dr Chafforer's wo Gordano. Old Swinford Hospital 17 Dentland GS 19; Tasker Mithward wo Gordano. Old Swinford Gordano. Old Swinford GS 76
GROUP P: Glantal 40 St George's Horts 15
Judd: wo Beanwood, Si George's Horts 15
Judd: wo Beanwood, Si George's Lantal'
38 St Ambrose 7: St George's 12 Judd 32; St Ambrose 9: St George's 12 Judd 32; St Ambrose 9: Judd 43; St George's Wo Beanwood.

Beanwood: St George's 12 Judd 14.
St Ambrose 7: Judd 43; St George's Wo Beanwood.

COLTS TOURNAMENT

erdashers' 19 GROUP B: Arnold 19 Downside 7; Glantal 22

ardischers' 19
GROUP B: Arnold 19 Downside 7: Glantal 22
SI Edward's Orderd 15, Arnold 28 Glantal 28,
Downside 0 St Edward's 27, Arnold 19 St
Edward is 15, Downside 14 Glantal 12,
GROUP C: Aylestrury 22 Christ s Hospital 12,
Whitchurch 12 Elon 33: Aylestrury 19
Whitchurch 12 Elon 33, Christ's Hospital 7 Elon 36,
Aylestrury 12 Elon 33, Christ's Hospital 7 Elon 36,
Aylestrury 12 Elon 33, Christ's Hospital 7 Elon 36,
Aylestrury 12 Elon 33, Christ's Hospital 7 Elon 36,
Aylestrury 12 Elon 33, Christ's Hospital 7 Elon 36,
Aylestrury 12 Elon 33, Christ's 10, King Henry
VII, Coventry 7 Oratory 24, SI Pauf's 35 King
Henry VII 17, Rudish 0 Calony 33, St Pauf's 0
Oratory 24, Rudish 19 Ning Henry VII 36
GROUP E: Elestmer 12 Wellington College 28, SI Joseph's, London 0 Llanhan 37;
Ellestmers 25, SI Joseph's 17, Wellington College 53 SI Joseph's 5,
GROUP F: Dwry-Fein 26 Chry of London Froemen 5 Verulam 19, Chry of London Froemen 5 Verulam 19, Chry of London Froemen 34 Nybridge 10, Dwry-Fein 26 Chry of London Froemen 35 Verulam 19, Chry of London Froemen 35 Verulam 7,
GROUP G: John Cleveland 0 RGS High Wycombe 29 Wimbledon College 10 Lord Wilsens 9;
John Cleveland 5 Lord Wilsens 97, RGS High Wycombe 29 Wimbledon College 10 Lord Wilsens 9;
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John Cleveland 5 Lord Wilsens 9;
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Alon Tal 10 Milliold 43, London Oratory 33 St

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Benedict's 5
BROUP L Queen Elizaboth, Barnet 39 Adams
GS 7, king Edward s, Bath 26 Bachgove GS
19 Queen Elizaboth, Barnet 39 King Edward's
5, Adams GS 12 Bachgrove GS 48, Queen
Elizaboth, Bornet 7 Birchgrove GS 28 Adams
GS 7 King Edward's 40
GROUP Jr. Bryancjon 36 Isstock Place 0:
Cytartho 7 Durham 19; Bryansjon 28
Cytartha 7, Isstock Place 9 Durham 19;
Bryansion 29 Durham 12; Ibstock Place 17
Cytartha 7
KNOCKOUT STAGE: Group winners' playoffic Habordachers Actor's, Eistore 31 Amold
5 Eton 12 Octatory 19
CUANTER-FINAL DRAW Habordachers' v
Cytarin; Lantari v Dray-Pefin RGS High
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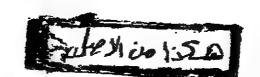
JUNIOR TOURNAMENT

OUARTER-FINALS. Donhead 19 London Oratory 14, St Otave's, Kent 31 Brocknume 12, Otchia 22 Bedford Modern 7: Castleford 7 Manchester GS 27 SEMF-FINALS: Denhead 24 SI Olave's, Kent 12, Olonia 7 Manchester GS 33 FINAL: Denhead 21 Manchester GS 5 PREPARATORY SCHOOLS TOURNAMENT

QUARTER-FINALS Mount House 0 Coldicost 26 Hazlegrove 10 Bromsprove 17 St Mery 5 Hall 0 Wolborough Hill 12, Newlands 0 The Dragon 22 SEMI-FINALS Caldicolt 12 Bromsprove 10, Wolborough Hill 22 Tho Dragon 12 FINAL: Caldicolt 19 Wolborough Hill 12,



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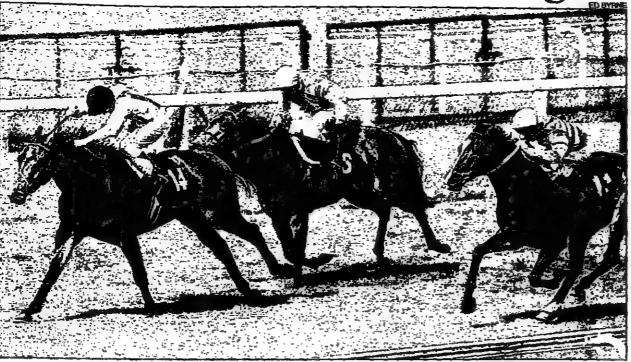
RACING: BIN SUROOR AND CECIL PREPARE FOR ANOTHER EPIC DUEL FOR FLAT TRAINERS' TITLE

Curtain rises with blind leading the blind

NOTHING better illustrates the eccentricity of British racing than the fare on the breakfast plate this morning. After digesting the spate of withdrawals from the Grand National, to be run over 42 miles and 30 fences, punters will turn their attention to the Brocklesby Stakes, a sprint over five eighths of a mile, in between jump racing's twin

Only 54 horses have been left in the Grand National at the second forfeit stage yesterday, raising fears that the race will again fall short of a 40-runner maximum field. Notable withdrawals include Dublin Flyer, Superior Finish, Sir Peter Lely, Into The Red. Coome Hill and Fantus.

peaks. Flat racing on turi gets under way at Doncaster. Indeed, the Brocklesby is the ultimate absurdity as an opening-day highlight. Those first, hesitant steps into the darkness of a new season are compounded by an event in which none of the 15 runners has previously seen a race-course. The blind are leading the blind and bookmakers, fattened on the proceeds of Cheltenham, are licking their lips in anticipation.



Yeast, seen winning the Victoria Cup at Ascot last season, is fancied to make a winning reappearance at Doncaster

The best to be said of it is that small players can have their day before the heavyweights assemble next month. In the absence of an outstanding horse from another stable. 1997 promises another titanic joust between Saeed bin Surpor and Henry Cecil. Last

year, they dominated to such an extent that John Gosden, who finished third in the rankings, trailed the pair by almost El million.

Both protagonists commence with an ahundance of talent. So laden is Cecil with high quality fillies that he

subscribed a quartet to the 2,000 Guineas. However, bin Surcor's Godolphin team houses 17 candidates for the spring classics. And word emanating from Dubai has it that Shamikh is moving with the ease of a magic carpet. Godolphin's season will be

C4

every bit as challenging as its first foray to these shares. Contrary to custom, Sheikh Mohammed, its patron, has not looted his British trainers of their best juveniles. Godolphin's first batch of two-yearhad a satisfactory campaign; when the sheikh

did by purchasing privately. Thus the munitions of Gosden, Michael Stoute and David Loder have survived intact — although it remains to be seen whether Sheikh Hamdan's small but select string, which wintered in Dubai, ends up in Godolphin's clutches. Stoute and Loder are not short of classic material but it is Gosden who stands to gain most from Godolphin's change of emphasis.

Gosden's string, systemati-cally ransacked in previous winters, looks well balanced and is reportedly forward enough to make an early show. It is hoped that it will snow. It is noped that it will not be one-way traffic. The likes of Royal Crusade (Wil-liam Haggas), Crimson Tide (John Hills), Royal Amaretto (Brian Meehan), Baked Alaska (Alec Stewart) and Poteen and Mandilak (Luca Cumani) have shown great potential in their forays to date.

Among jockeys, one won-ders what Frankie Dettori will conjure after his Ascot seventimer. If his enthusiasm continues to infect his mounts, anything is possible. Willie Carson has retired, and with Kieren Fallon now riding for Cecil, Pat Eddery stands at the crossroads of a glittering career, it will require an immense effort from Eddery's camp to keep him at the top.

Yeast can make fine start to new campaign

DONCASTER **CHANNEL 4**

2.05: A tricky opener for relevision punters with sev-eral unexposed runners stepping up in trip, some making while others are fit from the all-weather. Sword Arm who beat an all-aged field of maidens over an extended mile at Wolverhampton recently, should appreciate this stiffer test of stamina and can oblige for Roger Charlton, who won this race last year with Jackson Hill. Miracle Kid. representing the formidable John Gosden-Frankie Dettori team, and Pennywell are lightly raced winners open to considerable improvement, while Lady Godiva is arguably the form choice judged on some of last term's efforts.

2.35: There are as many tips as runners in the first twoyear-old race of the new Turf season and the market is often the best guide. Mick Channon normally has his juveniles tuned up and Richard Quinn is booked for Stately Princess. The Robellino filly has been working nicely at home and should be sharp enough to win first time out, according to her trainer. Bill Turner won this race last year and Mister Bankes is another who has been showing up well at home. The colt is by Risk Me, who often produces decent early two-year-olds.

3.10: Yeast is ideally suited by a straight, galloping mile and William Haggas's front-



ON TELEVISION

runner should have conditions to suit in this small field, drawn near the stands' rail. Amrak Ajeeb put up his best performance when winning a decent Ascot handi-cap last September and would go close if repeating that effort. However, the interesting runner is Canyon Creek, who justified shortpriced favouritism on his belated debut last year. The well-bred Mr Prospector coit is highly regarded and could make up into a smart four-

3.40: Brutal Fantasy has shown markedly improved form on the all-weather this winter and if he can repro-duce his winning efforts at Southwell and Wolverhampton. Les Eyre's runner will go close. Bishops Court impressed in both his races last term, winning easily at Hamilton on his second start, and he should win his share of races this season. Ellens Lad, who signed off last year by winning a Newmarket nursery, still looks reasonably treated and is marginally preferred.

RICHARD EVANS

DONCASTER

THUNDERER

1.30 Galapino 2.05 MIRACLE KID (nap)

2.35 Stately Princess

9

7

3.10 Canyon Creek 3,40 Ellens Lad 4.40 Fly To The Stars

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

1.30 RACING CHANNEL APPRENTICE HANDICAP

	(£2,	878:	1m 41) (24 runners)	
	101	(5)	30503-1	OPERA BUFF 84 (D.F.B.S) (B Trecoption) Mass & Kalleyery 8-9-10 A Wholes	-
	102	(12)		MEDYAN BLUE 131 (G) OK Palment J Exercise 7-9-10	-
	103	m		SLASHER MCX 515 (D.F.S) (V Greates) D Nichols 6-9-10. Inne Wends (5)	
	194	iti	08114-4	FAJRY KNOCHT 18 (D.F.G) (P.E.S. Levyr) R Hannon 5-8-8 (3 Callagher (7)	-
	105	(13)		PRY HUMAGE 175 (C.F.G.) (Mass A Hall I Balding S-9-7	1
	7.06	(111)	23522-	ALMERITARIAM 143 (F.G) (A Al-Middell) 6 Look 5-9.5 J Dennix (5)	1
	107	(24)	022310-		1
	108	(16)		COS NA FARRAGE 165 (OLF) (T Finch) Miss (Peralt 44-5 K Steel (5)	1
	109	(8)		TOMMETRIE 871J (S) (I Guiza) B McMahoon 5-9-2	
	110	(10)		HOSEY NATIVE 147 (F.S) 41 Prescr) J Pearce 4-9-2 Line Monaried (7)	ı
	111	(39)	23510-1	AMADOUR 23 (0.6) (0 Crowson) P Machell 4-8-8 A McCarthy (7)	9
	112	(19)	45540-0	DECISION MAKER 19 (8) (Mrs 8) Whitehorn) X Berts 4-9-0 D Griffits (3)	1
	113	(10)		CHABROL 26J (F) (T Corners) T Clement 4-8-15	ı
	114	(16)	480-211	FAFFLES ROOSTER 19J (D.G) (M Leadenry & Houseambe 5-8-10 Jo Husman (5)	8
	115	(23)	315350-	SENERAL GLOW 135 (O,F) (J Wole) P Bers 4-8-9	Ę
	116	(22)	4-05302	DANCING CAVALIER 17 (6) (These Pro) R Hollinstead 4-8-7 F Lynch	8
	117	(6)	251510-	HE'S GUT WANTES 184 (D.F.) (8 Hallamen) Mrs. J. Recorden, 4-8-7. Martin Dayor	
	118	(14)	020/.	RESERVATION ROCK GU (S Piper) T Hind 6-8-5 Summits McGina (7)	4
	119	(זו)	012565	FASOLOUS MITOTO 7 (D.F.SI) (N PPe) M Supplies 7-8-6 R Filterich (6)	į
	120	CAN	140120	PETRISION 42 (F.O.S.) (Mrs.) Relatedge) J Petros 5-8-5	ä
•	121			KALAMATA 20 (D.BF.E) (B Fam) J Glover 5-8-3 T E Durcan (3)	ğ
		(21)	804-212	GALAPTRO SE (D.SF.S) (N. Dearmo) Miss & Kalifony 4-7-11 R Malin (5)	9
	123	(8)	024050	PARSKOT'S HELL 26J (NJ Tomphins Elia) M Tomphins 4-7-10 M Heavy	5
	124	(4)	313022	KE MAMARTYRA GRE, 6 (D.F.S) (P Crown) J Parlets 7-7-19 J Bramini (5)	8
	District Control	arch (L.)	4 Charles State	i 7.4 februar Shin S.C febra God Wilson, Absorbingan 18.7 Sellet Septio r 16.7 Ob	

1890: HAYA YA KEFAAH 4-7-10 R Firench (33-1) N Babbage 21 mm

FORM FOCUS

			A WINNER BY TRAIN HANDICAP m 21 60yd) (16 numers)	
201	ال. ي. (5)	610210-	LONE HAS NO PRICE 153 (F.S) Order I. Regist R Harper 9-7 Dane O'Nell 89	
20.	(12)	42-21	SET SETTINY 57 (5) (Maddleham Park) P Haslers 9-4	
203	(7)	3223-14	SLIPERRELLE 35 (D.G) (N York) M. Laryle 9-1 Exercis O'Gorman 85	
204	CI3	449.1	BWIND ARM 15 (0) to Occurrence R Charles 8-13 Sprace	
205	(8)	005-	BALLESCAY 145 (R Brokent) M Changos 8-13 Paul Enterly	
208	(6)	05-92	MACHINE AND REPLACEMENT AND BLUE CHEED IN STREET B-1 IN MICLIOTIS BD	
100	a	81.	MARACI F 100 126 (S) () Ltd J Ensdry 8-10	
206	(4)	093214	LACTY GODDINA 170 (G) (Keen Racing) M Policies #-6 1 % MC. 2007 UNI	
209	(10)	MILIST.	LEAN GARNENET 19 (G) (Carriering Partners) (I Company 74 H (AP) (2) 154	
210	(1)	432544		
511	(9)	74	DEPENDANCE 1 22 (S) (Lady Robischild) K Johnson Departure 0-2 5 38-400 55	
212	(14)	660-	MAINT PROJECTS 132 (2 CAUMI) D 1400 0 15	
213	(18)	91,9006	THE DECLAY 174 IF) IF Sameband Mis M JONES 5-1	
214	(11)	MARKE	MANAGEM MARI COME 180 DATA & MICH MAY J HATTERN (-)3 P. PRIMERY (2) OF	
215	(3)	\$12121		
216	(15)	900-		
BETT	NB 3-	1 Miratie K	14, 7-2 Sward Arm, 6-1 Selbarry, Persoynell, Ad-Is, 9-1 Love His No Pride, 12-1 olders.	
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1996: JACKSON HELL 8-4 Pel Eddey (6-4 tar) R Chanton 18 nas FORM FOCUS

BELBERRY best history 144 in 8-namer handicap at Wolvestrampen (1m 100yd, AW) was Take CAN TELL (The better off) 2161 and short-head 4th. SWORD ARM best Utile Acom easily by 11 in 9-namer maken at Wolvestrampen (1m 100yd, AW).

MRACLE (ND best Protocol rack in 9-namer)

Selection: SELBERRY.

2.35 TOTE BENVENUTO BROCKLESBY CONDITIONS

-	ain	AE-Q	(Z-1-V; Z4'354; 3t) (13 (minut)
1	365	CHR	MELIERIDGE DANCER (A Curtific) B Ninolan 8-11 M 3chholt
	源	19	FAR-SC-LA (Rest HRL Pariners) T. Jones, 8-11
	303	(i)	TRVE OF SPACES IS Catalogy D Michalls 8-11
ļ	396	(4)	MICHELON (P Swift) R Holleshend 8-1)
ł	30S 394	n	MESTER BANKES (T Lephboune) W G M Turner 8-11 T Sprain
i	307 307 308 309	R	PRINCE NICHOLAS (Autora Studi & Hogg \$-11_, , , , , , ,) Mickesum
1	307	ilis	SOMOSERRA (Mrs. C Dealers) J Berry 8-11
ı	306	(A) (S)	SUGGEST (Balcol Ltd) Miss, & Kellengy 8-11
1	301	(ti)	THE OTHER RISK (Low Flyers) D Makes 8-11 & Defficial
ı	310		WIREIGN PILOT (Waning Team) R Hannon 8-11. Per Eddary
i	311	(13)	YORIGES BOY Date: M Beddle) B McAlanen 8-11
Į	312	(12)	DAYS OF GRACE (5 Boyles: M Morate 8-5
ı	In.	103	RLEY BRIGG (Instample Racing) W Kerry 8-5
i		CSS	OUT LINE MAGIC (Mrs & Douson) P Event 8-6 J F Eggn
ı	315		
ı			
Į			C Suppost, 4-1 Whitin Plins, 9-2 Someshim, 5-1 Substy Phiness. B-1 Elemage Duncer, 10-1 Mar
I	Service .	i, Yarki	as Boy 16-1 colous.

1996: NOMAN SPARK 8-11 T Sprain (100-30; W.S. M Pamer 7 cm

3.10 SPORTING LIFE DONCASTER MILE

ડા	30 L9	CE; 271.	434: Im) (6 runners)	
	.63	010010-	YEAST 186 (D.F.S) (8 Hagges) W Hagges 5-9-1	94
è	(1)	501016-	AMPLAK AJEER 141 (D.F.O.S) (A Messe) 8 Harbury 5-8-12	
3	10	250000-	BAND ON THE RUM 152 (CD.F.G.S) (D Allen) B McAlabon 10-8-12 T Quinn	81
4	(2)	1-	CANYON CREEK 164 (D,G) (Shelft) Mahammed; J Gossian 4-6-12. L Dellant	74
5	(3)	311446-	LONGLY LEADER 180 (F) (S Signal) R Hannon 4-8-12 Pal Eddary	84
į.	19	23441-1	RAHEEN 71 (B.D.SF.G) (B Kellary) W G M Tomer 4-9-12 T Speake	73
T	唯7-	4 Years, 5-7	? Carryon Craek, Assek Ajoeb, 7-1 Lonely Luader, 12-1 Basel On The Ren, 25-1 Raid	MD.
			1000: CD97 IC: AMD 4 B 17 M Mate (0.2) C Minus 7 cm	

FORM FOCUS

VEAST and Restruction 14th in 5-more lained pro- al freempariet (1m. good to firmly perioditarials start, AMHANA ASSES 61 6th of 18 to America group 18 Price Active Babain Grand Price des Provinces al Etite- sellies Per-Bourly (1m 21 good to James Pre-sour- y) to the 14th Prof 14th in 35-martes freedrags al Ascort (1m. good) CARYON CREEK best tuken	3000) LONELY LEADER 1%1 4th of 8 to F Prince in conditions race at Goodwood (7), go RAMEEN Louid Wilder; Hill Mill 11-moved ma at Wolfenhampton (1m 100vd, AM) perubu Shift

3.40 mitsubishi diamond vision handicap

501	123	151505-	DEVICE AND RIAE 216 (DJF) (LL Johnson) P Hollashand S-7 D Guilles (3)	8
Sac.	(1)		SWING 208 (D.F) (Swinnerton Transport) P Evens 9-7	8
383	(13)		WEET EES GIFL 202 (D.S) (E Weatmen, Ltd) P Evens 94 K Fallon	8
594	(10)	0031S1-		9
505	n2s	31-	BISHOPS COURT 172 (D.6) (D Brathaton) Mrs J Remarker 9-4 . J Fortune	- 91
506	M	1320-	CLINNERS GLORY 197 (D.F) (7 Parring) & Meeton 9-3 L. Deficit	100
507	B 1		BALLYMOTE 178 (D F) (b) Sentislant J Berry 9-1	8
586	19	434-	JEDI KNIGHT 220 (k Hodocon) M W Easterby 6-13 Dale Gibson	98
500	(11)	302-322	CASTLE ASHEY LACK 26 (B) (So Finterest P Housey 8-11 Paul Eddey	8
51B	800	300-151	BRUTAL FANTASY 36 (D.G.S.) (Diamond Racing) J Eyes 8-10 R Lappin	9
511	(3)		EAGER TO PLEASE 16 (B,D,F,G) Mics. 6 festionery 8-8 D Holland	9
512	(4)		LUNAR LIUSIC 3 (D.F.) IF Depth M. Heath 8-4	
513	15)		GOLD EDGE 150 JM Charmons Mr Charmon 7-18 A Eddesy (7)	
BETT	NG: S-	6 Reshoos C	Court, 5-1 Ellens, Lad, 6-1 Eagur To Piezse, 7-1 Ballyunin, 8-1 Guncars Glory, 18-1 D	-
		-1 others		
_			1000-1777 C SECOND S E I CASA ME LA C Dans 18 cm	

FORM FOCUS

Į	FRANCE WARD HOTE 1 and 200 of 2 to \$1000 WLICED IN
i	a coursely at Haydock (St. good to him) with LUNAR
ł	MILISIC (5to better off) 3% (5th ELLENS LAG beat
ĺ	Kilcuiton Lad 161 on 8-number nursery at Newmarket
l	(SI, good) BISHOPS COURT heat Hurgit Lady
ı	156 in 6-runner marden auction at Hamilton (5).
i	good). GLANNERS GLURY neck 3nd of 8 to Downy
Į	in a claimer at Lincolleid (6) 19005 to 508) penulti-
i	FINE SEPT. BALLYMUTE MEST Dorma's Cancer 15:
i	
i	

Jennis, J. L. (1994) Alia et 12 to Bullantoolis Bajan to manden auchem at Timzh (51, gnoot) BRUTAL FAN-TAST beat Mangue. 1941 in a 6-manen handisen Sid. Wholey transfer Sid. Ph. PAGER TO PLEASE beat Bloss Marger. 1941 in an 8-manor edonour at Languistic CA. AND SID. SID. PARTASY

Blinkered first time

DONCASTER: 2.05 Watercolour PLUMPTON: 5.00 Mr Lovely WINCANTON: 3.15 Fools Errand

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

83	(15)	0-8432	900D TBAE	6 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Miss D Retrescon) S Hall 9-18-0 - B West (4)
	4 U -	· (885) 286	Heat Hotels	te Sin-Apere Li — uncanned ped op. fi — c nucle. Days of Bat. (8 — — Eyesbadd.	comme and distance memor. HF — beat terrounts in latest race). Boing on which horse home F — time, good to form, bard G — good so seef, beavy). Owner in backet Transer. Age and weight. Rube ples any allowance.

4.10 FAUCETS FOR MIRA / RADA DOMESTIC COMMERCIAL SHOWER EQUIPMENT LADIES HANDICAP

(\$2,402: 1m 2t 60yd) (20 runners)				
- aan	(15)	342060-	FOREST ROBBI 135 IP Leasanth Mrs. J Recretion 4-11-7 E Francism (5) 1	
605	(1)	40380-	TAKE NOTICE 188 (J Slatery) & McKeller 4-11-1	
863	(10)	512000-	MYBOTYE 131 (F,B) (A Maronny) R Bashman 4-11-4	
604	(4)	484231-	BREAK THE RULES 121 (CD)F, B, S) (A Lambe) M Plat 5-11-2 A Ported 8	
905	(19)	12210-1	AMBEL FACE 5 (D,C) (Mr. E Williams) P Grees 4-11-1 (See) C Food (5)	
506	(28)	00065-4	GOLD BLADE 16 (D.F.G) (A Old) J Penns B-10-12 L. Penns	
607	ന		PISMS DOUGH 184 (D.F) IB Printed E1 Moon 5-18-11., Jilloom 8	
606	件	2240-00	LONEYTUNALLICAS 45 (F,S) (Eliz Racing) N Tinher 5-10-11 J Allison	
(RE)	(13)	4112-40	MANIFLE 48 (B.CD.F.S.S) (C Switer-Lanux) Was L Parall 5-10-11 S Bosley 1	
618	中	6/0003-	DESERT FIGHTER 194 (D.F.G) (A France) Mrs M Revoluy 6-10-11 P. Jones	
811	(2)	51718-4	MELS BASY 24 (C.RF.F.S.S) (J Recents) J Eyes 4-10-0 Diese Jones 1	
612	(14)	264-	INERVANA PRINCE 305J (i) Pontrum B Prince 8-10-11 L Boowsii (5)	
013	(6)	3/900-14	TANNAFER 42 (D,6) (T Shapberd) S Dow 4-10-8	
514	(8)		FOURDAMED 196 (Fourspars) P Huns 4-10-8.	
615	(12)		FATHER DAM 37 (D.F.S) (Failing Dam Partners) Miss & Kellinnay 8-9-13 L Kerr (G)	
616	(18)	43000-0	OPEN AFFAIR 45 (A Foorlas) H Albury 4-6-11	
617	110b		COHBA 19 pales B Curley) B Curley 4-9 A Brockerck (5)	
618	በን	0/34680-	PLASH BY THE PAN BU Diks Y Scottner) J Moore 4-9-8 S Moore (5)	
614	. (4)	006-412	ROUGSI 46 (G) (A Bloodstock) D Nuchotis 5-8-7	
628	(11)		SOUARED ANAY 163 (B,F) (Mrs & Lake) J Payre 5-9-4 G Lake (5) 1	
RETU	MR: 5.	1 Beek Th	e Rules, 6-1 Acent Face, 13-2 Doubl Fichter, 8-1 Reater, 10-1 Fallet Dite, 11-1 Ge	

1990: MANFAL 4-9-9 A Elsay (20-1) C Elsay 27 mil FORM FOCUS

BREAK THE RILLES has Berned Save IN in | handcap to Rindow (1m 21, firm). MELS BABY SHA

tier over counte and detainon (proof). AAMEL	4th of 10 to Mag The Chief in artistatus bundles
25 best Credingh Laine 11/6 in 13-runner hand-	Southwell (Tr. Ath), FATHER DAIA 24th 3rd of it
al Webersteeplan (Lon 11 79vd. AMS). MANEUL	Sewell Withelmore in limited claims of Lingle
9 afters 341 See at 12 to late Seculular in	(1m, AW) BOLISSI 44t 2nd of 11 to See Spotst
deats at Webersteepland (11v 44, AMS). DESERT	bundless at Southwell (1m, AW).
HIER (we besits 3rd of 10° to Urgant Swift in	Salesser: MELS DAILY
An wer may whom wanted on	PAYER /2 V /J. C2 SEA: 1m) /9 nmoon

FORM FOCUS SURPHING TRUTH 121 10th of 19 In Enter in SOURCE 21 3nd of 10 to Althude in making at another at Source (7), good to limit) ARBOREAL 51 5th of

STARS 1(2nd of 16 in Tayson in makken at Redical (7), good to Such SET THE POURT 4541 last of 4 to River List in conditions race at Newsonium (11ro, good), RIVEN'S	17 to Foote in conditions race & Fortender (You, sort). TOI TOI SWI 4th of 20 to Hands History in streeting here (71, sort). Separation PLY TO THE STARS
COURSE S	PECIALISTS
	AA mara AA

JOCKEYS N Robbinge Miss, G fell J Species R Charles R Hills M Charman

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Exeter

4.20 (3m 2l ch) 1, Tinotope (Mrs. S Victory

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: AMADOUR (1.30 Doncaster) Next best: Fly To The Stars (4.40 Doncaster)

5-2 law; 2, Sarisot (20-1); 3, The Metalamma (100-30), 12 ran. NR: Abbotsham, Clevie Shighheid, Qualifar Marrow; 12, 11, Mr. R Viction), Tore 14-80, £1.20, £4.70, £1.50, 0F: C51.20, Tno. £23 10, CSF: £50.98 4.50 (2m 2) hote; 1, Caol Gunher (C Maude. 7-4 isv); 2, Handson (3-1), 3, Commandhe Creek (8-1) 7 ran. 3t, 41 J king, Tote. 62:50; 62:00, £1:50 DF 52:90 CSF: £6.79.

Placepot: £39.00. Quadrot: £9.90.

Towcester Going: great to firm

2.10 (2m hole) 1, Derrybelle (Mr S Durack, 33-1); 2, Hanging Grove (31-4); 3, Boy Bartoney (9-4 tot) 11 am 8, 156. D Williams: Tote: 542-90, 65.80, 61.60, 61.40. DF-582-00. Tric: 5180.00 (pent worn, pool of 53.81 carriered forward to 1.30 at Domossore today) CSF-5112.56. No bots. 2.40 (2m 110)rd oth) 1, Growing (R Ournecody, 10-11 lavy: 2, Sleazey (20-1): 3. Just Bruce (5-2), 4 ran. 121, 41 J Gifford. Toter C1 70. DF c9-90 CSF c10.62.

Outcome, 11-4 (f-fav); 2, Wests Street (11-4 (f-fav); 3, Boths Ploy (7-1) 6 ran. 71, 2 kl. J Fansthews Tote. 23 50, 52 40, 52 50 DF: CS 60 CSF, 19130. ES 80 CSF, DI200.

3.40 (3m 1) ch) 1, Hamistown Lady (B Califord, 100-30); 2, Fisch Thoughts (11-8 fret); 3, Respecies Rock (10-1) 4 ran NR. Don'l Light Up. 181, 41 G Beiding Tote: £4 50; £5,30, DF; £4 00 CSF, £7,77

4.10 (2m hold); 1, Dissolve (Mr L Bakar, 7-1); 2, Positino (10-1); 3, Mr Poppleton (5-1); Farriers 5-2 few 8 ran NR. The Bczo, 194, 141 N Lampard Total, £770; £50, £3 40, £1 50 DF; £22 20, Thio £63 80, CSF £64 87, Tricast; £402 £62.

4.40 Cm 81 ch) 1, Star Cada (Mr A Knane, 4,40 (cm 8i ch) 1, Ster Oate (Mr A Kiner 7-1); 2, Hicketton Lad (7-2), 3, Boffinger M lav), 4 ren 4l, 1% Mrs R Lampard To 28 30 DF 27 00 CSF: 225 38 Bis Dir L7 to CSP Lesses MA Fitzperald, 2-11 2, Lord Rooble (6-4 tav); 3, Fashion Matter (5-2) 5 ran, 1 v., dist, M Hendatson, Tote \$2.80, £1 70, £1.30, DF: \$2.80 CSF 64 76

Ludiow Goung: good to firm, good in places

2.06 (2m note) 1, Chief Mouse (J F Tilley, 4-5 ley), 2, Night Bout (5-1), 3, Antace (6-1), 9 ren Nit Ruan's Gamble, TNiel 2M, 31 Max H Kingle, Toler 21 50, 51 10, 51 40, 52 10 DF 52:20 Trio, 55:30 CSF, 64:39 2.20 (3m chi 1, Fongrove (f Agguru, 18-1), 2. Trumpet (3-1); 3, Scoton (9-4). Too Sharp 7-4 (av 5 ran NR Hought 49, 13f R Prost, 7 July 12:30; 52:70, 51:70 DF 510.10. CSF 530-52

23.00 (2m hdip) 1, Above The Cut, (C Liesellyn, 18-8 tav), 2, Mutentherg (11-1); 3, Desert Colin (7-1), 8 ran, NRS Schmozde 146, 18 C Matricel: Tate 12:30; £1:10, £2:50, £1:50 DF £20 70 Tho, £49:70 CSF £17:48 Tricast £6:68

17038 200 W 1, 1 Blue Cheek (Mr N Bractley, 9-2); 2, Landster Missile (12-1), 3, Minelin Express (9-4 lay) 18 ran NR Weight Ltd (8, 4) Mishon, Tote 63 50; 22 50, 22 50, 21 30 DF 237,90, The 126 60 CSF 650.29 4,00 (2m inde) 1, Crandon Boulevard J. Culloly, 3-1 (-law, Thundere's nap), 2 Subwers (100-30); 3, Noble Colours (10-1) Mogs Memory 3-1 (-law 8 ran, 3), 41 Min, J Perman Tote C3.80; £1.60, £1.30, £1.70 DF £4.50, CSF-£12.57.

4.30 (2m 41 ch) 1, Mr Sneggie (R Johnson, 4-7): 2. Feedey Pyer (17 4 lan), 3. Prize Match (8-1) 9 nm. 8; 24! Smon Earle Tote: £4 40: C+ 80, C1 30, C1 30 OF: £4 80 The £5.10 CSF £13 80 SP 13 so (Sh fist reca) 1, Mayday Lauren (S Wyrne, 5-1), 2, Sandwille Lad (SO-1) 3, Rojadora (16-1) Homme Do Fer 11-8 tav 11 ram NR. Garger Metez 44, hd. A Balley Totar 27.50: 22.00, ES-60, ES-60 DR E127.10 CSF 1222.89. Placepot: £43,10.

DEGMETOR !

THUNDERER 2.25 Lord Mills. 2.55 Regal Aura. 3.25 Tomal. 4.00 Flight Lieutenant. 4.30 Black Church, 5.00 Always

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (GOOD IN PLACES)

2.25 PEASE POTTAGE NOVICES HURDLE (£2,826: 2m 4f) (12 runners)

2.55 CUCKFIELD HANDICAP CHASE

(£2,887: 2m 5f) (8) 5-2 Jonas Man, 7-2 Regal Aura, 4-1 Perferoenterian, 5-1 Suffolis Road, 6-1 others.

3.25 MARCH SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE 1 FP35 BATTLESHIP BRUCE 10 T Casey 5-11-10.

2 8002 GENERAL SHRLEY 6 (F) P Medge 6-11-4
3 0LDF TORMAL 30F R logram 5-10-13
6 RD VANBERGUISH LAD 14 M Bolton B-10-11
5 -DOA MISHAMAN 48 T Med 6-10-10
5 POM 2ADOK 10 (8) J Filter-Heyes 5-10-8
7 6F-P HIGH BURNSHOT 9 (F) Mes 1 Jewell 10-10-2
8 JPOD 3CALP TEM 7-P PHICHAR 9-10-0
9 P-OF TIGANA 6 Mes 1 Jewell 5-10-0
9 P-OF SANF 6 J JUSTIN 5-10-0
6 Emptg Sylder 1.1 keiterban Norm 7-7-7-tokal 4 5 Tannal 2-1 General States: 3-1 Battleship Brute, 7-2 Zagok 4-3 Tomak 14-1 Yanbornogh Lad, 20-1 Tiguna, Scalp em. 25-1 others

4.00 WEATHERBYS DATA SERVICES MOVICES CHASE (£2,906, 2m) (5) 3 2821 FURHT LEUTENANT 19 (D.F.E.E.) T Case; 8-12-0 D Bodgmaint
3 2956 FRUIT TOWN 100 P Buffer B-11-2 III Discription
3 - PP3 INFLANMETOD 17 D Welsons E-11-2 III S Durach (2)
4 2950 FROME SPRID FOR ES, 12 Popular 7-11-2 III S Durach (3)
5 705 TIM PAN ALLEY 31 D Greach 8-11 2 P Harriey (3) 4-11 Fight Underson, 4-1 Robins Plade, 12-1 Allegandon 16-1 Im Pan Afley 20-1 Froil Toes.

4,30 HAILSHAM HANDICAP CHASE 1 31P4 BLACK CHURCH 14 (C.F.S.) R home 11-11-12
2 PSPP PROCED 38 (F) 0 (Bloom 19-10-1)
3 SPSP JOKER JACK 6 (F.S.) R home 12-10-0
4 PAT SHARROW BAY 37 A Hobor 12-10-0
R Green

5.00 LEWES AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,193 2m 4f) (8) ### 1 5-22 NCELLY MAC 10 (5) D D Druch 7 1) 10

1 1-0P GONE FOR LUNCH 6 (F) 3 Mbyte 6-11-6

3 5132 ALWAYS GREDIET BIO (G) 3 Mbyte 6-11-6

5 8125 ALWAYS GREDIET BIO (G) 3 Mbyte 6-11-8

6 PPDL MR LONELY 13 (B) 1 Movine 6-10-2

6 PPDL MR LONELY 13 (B) 1 Movine 6-10-2

8 FB - BAYLORD PRONCE 316 87,5-59 Mb. 1 Equ 9-10-4

Mr J Goldbean (F)

Mr J Goldbean (F)

Mr J Goldbean (F)

Mr J Goldsten (7) 7-4 helly Marc 5-2 Absars Greents 7 1 ning s Gold & 1 Game For Lunch Prince 01 Spades, 10-1 Miscratt, 12-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

RACELÎNE DONCASTER 101 201 WINCANTON 102 202 PLUMPTON 103 203 FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

PLUMPTON: Transers: J Neville. 9 winners from 18 rumers: \$0.0%, Mrs. L. Pichards, 5 from 17, 29.4%, D Grissel 13 from 70, 18.6%; R O Sullivan 9 from 53, 17.7%; 7 McGovern, 8 John 47, 17.0%; P Hedger, 4 from 24, 18.7%, Jockeys, D Bridgwater, 16 winners from 46 roles, 34.8%; J Osborne, 12 from 48, 25.0%, M Richards, 10 from 44, 22.7%, D O Sulfivan 13 from 88, 15.1%; W Marsson 4 from 30, 13.3%; T Murphy 3 from 25, 12.0%

WINCANTON Trainers. M. Pipe. 41 withers from 146 runners. 28 1%; N. Twistor-Daves, 10 from 51, 19 6%, N. Bailey 12 from 64 18 8%, J. Gellout, 13 from 76, 17 1%; P. Hischolts, 21 from 128, 16 4%; P. Hisbots, 19 from 116 16 1%. Jackeys: R Distretion, 32 stames from 134 rdes, 23.9%, P Hote 7 from 37, 18.9%; T Dissource, 9 from 61, 14.6%, R Johnson, 3 from 22, 13.6%, C Llewellyn, 7 from 52, 13.5%.

WINCANTON

THUNDERER
2.15 Midnight Legend. 2.45 Malwood Castle. 3.15
Foots Errand. 3.45 Motoque. 4.20 King's Treasure.
4.50 Easy Listening. 5.20 Noisy Macr. Private Handicapper's top rating: 3,50 MOYOQUA. Carl Evans: 4.20 Vital Song.

GOING GOOD TO FIRM (FIRM IN PLACES)

2.15 BRITISH FIELD SPORTS SOCIETY MAIDEN HURDLE (C2.478: 2m) (14 numers)

: Medingal Legard, 4-1 Embadignerii, 7-1 Meritance Prince, 6-1 Piper's Rock geloom Rong (1 Yesion, 12-1 others.

2.45 CORTON DENPAN HOVICES CHASE (£3,246 2m 5l) (6)

4-5 Deant Pale: 7-2 Malmout Caste 5-1 Gres & Call, 12-1 San Degn Clarge Ranchert, 16-1 Potare Sante

3.15 STEMART TORY MEMORIAL TROPHY CHASE (Handicap £4.120 3m 11.110pd) (4)

6-4 Foots Chard 2 1 Sunder Bay, 11-4 Ownger Baby, 6-1 Spring To #

3.50 MOYCOMBE MARES DMLY MOVICES HIRROLE (£2,635 2m 6f) (15)

1 AMERIL 1025 B Palling 8-11-0 R Forestal PP SOLD RENIX 35 A Burrow 8-11-0 P Holliny BULCKREE FLYSH R Anne 5-11-0 A Thantation CASTILE LYNCH ACT A Anne 5-11-0 A Thantation CASTILE LYNCH ACT R Anne 5-11-0 A Thantation CASTILE LYNCH ACT R Anne 5-11-0 B P CASTILE LYNCH ACT AND THE SOLD PRODUCT AND THE SOL

4.20 SOMERTON NOVICES HURTERS CHASE teurs: £1,175: 2m 5t) (10)

4.50 QUARTOCK HANDICAP HURDLE 2 4-13 NORTHERN STARLIGHT 14 (CD.F.G) M Pue 8-11-11 G Mancie 19 2 FROM 1800'S CROSS 10 (CD.S) Å J Wilson 8-11-4 A Tronton 19 3 307 EASY LETERNIS 48 (CD M Havis 5-71-3 J Bailton 48 48 (CD M Havis 5-71-3 J Bailton 48 48 (CD M Havis 5-71-3 J Bailton 48 48 (CD M Havis 5-71-3 J Bailton 48 48 (CD M Havis 5-71-3 J Bailton 48 48 (CD M Havis 5-71-3 J Bailton 48 48 (CD M Havis 5-71-3 J Bailton 48 48 (CD M Havis 5-71-3 J Bailton 48 48 (CD M Havis 5-71-3 J Bailton 48 48 (CD M Havis 5-71-3 J Bailton 48 48 (CD M Havis 5-71-3 J Bailton 48 48 (CD M Havis 5-71-3 J Bailton 48 48 (CD M Havis 5-71-3 J Bailton 48 48 (CD M Havis 5-71-3 J Bailton 48 48 (CD M Havis 5-71-3 J Bailton 48 48 (CD M Havis 5-71-3 J Bailton 48 48 (CD M Havis 5-71-3 J Bailton 48 (CD M Havis 5-71-3)

4-7 Monthern Starfight, 3-1 Gasy Lichtaing, 7-1 Dortaless

5.20 Levy board standard open national hunt flat race (\$1,490, 2m) (15)

PESTIVAL A Lanes 4-10-10 4.5 Marcy Marcs, 6-1 Michie Brate, 7-1 Plate Brays, 16-1 Fine Brays, 16-1 Langistane (and Addistance Officer), 20-1 arthur

FREE TIMEFORM HORSES TO FOLLOW (FLAT SEASON 1997) BOOKLET FOR FIRST TIME TELEPHONE CALLERS staking £20 or more using Switch or Delta bank or building society RING TODAY- BET TODAY 0800 44 40 40 (Mainton total investment per call 5th Over 18's only)
*Free Timeform Booklet will be sent within 7 to 10 days of your first bet being placed. MESIESHOLAMONO VISION HANDICAP 10/3 Bishops Court 14/1 Jedi Knight 16/1 Lunar Music 11/2 Brutal Fantasy 15/2 Eager To Please 20/1 West Ess Girl 10/1 Ballymote 25/1 Divide And Rule 10/1 Gunners Glory 25/1 Gold Edge 12/1 Castle Ashby Jack Each way One Quarter the odds a place 1, 2, 3. Prices subject to fluctuation. Available up to 3.25pm. Tattersells Rule 4(c) may apply. Non runner – no bet LATEST OODS ON William Hill TV TEXT Telefisat on CH4 PS07/S02/S03

TO OPEN A CREDIT ACCOUNT FREEPHONE DROG 289 892 WILLIAM HILL RULES APPLY PRICES SUBJECT TO FLUCTUATION

Hoddle set

to keep

faith with

criticised

Le Tissier

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

THERE will be changes

aplenty when Glenn Hoddle

names his squad for the

England international against

Mexico at Wembley next week, but the change demand-

ed by many in the wake of the

World Cup defeat by italy last

month will not be forthcom-

ing. Many may have blamed

Matthew Le Tissier for the 1-0

home defeat that makes quali-

fication from group two a

hugely difficult task, but Hoddle, the England coach, does not and the Southampton difficult task, but

Hoddle is adamant that Le

lissier was unfairly criticised

for his part in England's first

ever home defeat in a World

Cup match, saying it was Le Tissier who had England's

best two chances, either side of

Gianfranco Zola's winner.

Even though the Channel

Islander was withdrawn after

an hour against Italy and despite the fact that his broth-

er. Karl, was involved in the

disclosure of Le Tissier's place

and role in the team before the

game, he will remain in the

Others will not be so lucky

Among those forced out of

contention by injury problems are Alan Shearer, of New-

castle United, who is recover-

ing from his third groin

operation inside 12 months,

Paul Gascoigne, sidelined by ankle trouble, Paul Merson,

the Arsenal striker, who has a

groin injury, and Darren Anderton, of Tottenham Hotspur, who has a ham-string problem. Les Ferdinand

is also doubtful with a pulled

hamstring.
Tony Adams, who is over his ankle injury, will probably

take the captaincy in Shearer's absence, while Robbie Fowler,

alongside a fit-again Teddy Sheringham, who was forced

out of the Italy match by his

Gascoigne's injury, which has perhaps saved Hoddle an

awkward decision in view of

the Rangers' playmaker's con-

though 32, Earle has been in

impressive form and was

placed on standby for the Italian game. Chris Perry,

another Wimbledon player,

could also be called up. The

central defender was picked

out by Alex Ferguson after his

displays against Manchester

United and has been watched

Nigel Martyn, of Leeds Uni-

ted, another to have been in

superb form this season, is

challenging David James for

one of the goalkeeping places

ankle problem.

England party.

man's place is safe.

Hall must rebuild crumbling castle

By DAVID MADDOCK

he said.

HAVING started out in his business life as an architect. Sir John Hall has always enjoyed an instinct for creation. His Metro Centre in the North East is the ultimate monument to the Thatcherite culture of the Eighties, and Newcastle United's rebirth was another of his grand

Now, however, as all architects are forced to do. he must turn his mind to the more mundane task of rebuilding. The structure he so impressively constructed, the club he took from drawing-board to shining, brilliant reality, is now beginning to crumble.

His builder, Kevin Keegan, has gone, and the team he left behind is showing signs of distress. Newcastle were woeful in Monaco, collapsing spectacularly in the second half after conceding a goal just before the break.

classed during the second period of their Uefa Cup quarter-final second leg, and after spending £60 million, Sir John has every right to be depressed at such a limp display. Only now can he that faces Kenny Dalglish, the new manager, if he is to rebuild the club and capture the honours that such spending demands.

The chairman's face at Newcastle airport yesterday showed that he does not underestimate the job ahead, as did his blunt one-word comment: "Disgraceful."

Later yesterday, after calmer reflection, he acknowledged that Dalglish will have to create his own team quickly. using his own raw materials. and not those left behind by

effectively conceded, will not win anything. "In a sense, this is the end of the Keegan era, and that's probably it for the team assembled by Keegan."

"I've gone through some ups and downs before this. On Tuesday, I was very disappointed, especially with our second-half performance. because we were outclassed. One lesson that must be learnt amid all the emotion surrounding our display is that. when you reach this stage of the competition, you are meeting the best teams, and, if you don't have your best team. your limitations will be exposed. But I also think that English football will have to look at its coaching methods. Where are all our coaches? Monaco were quicker, fitter and had better skills."

After spending such a vast amount, Sir John is entitled to ask why he has not had a better return from his investment. particularly when Keegan made such a promising start. The former manager was outstanding in turning the club around but Tuesday's evidence suggests that Newcastle lack certain funda-mental qualities to make the final step on the long road towards honours.

Not only were Keegan's eccentricities in defence still readily visible under Dalglish unsurprising given that they are the same players but so was the shallowness of the squad. There are injuries, but Newcastle are missing only two automatic choices: Shearer and Ferdinand. Two injuries then, and a painful lack of depth is exposed.

Keegan did not create a structure beyond the first team

Lodge completes rise

with final recognition



Benarbia, right, and Anderson celebrate Monaco's third goal in the embarrassing 3-0 defeat of Newcastle

he purchased. He also ignored the obvious need in a balanced team for players who defend naturally. At Newcastle, they are almost all attackers by nature. Even defenders like Watson, Albert and Elliott.

When there are injuries,

cupboard is empty when Dalglish goes in search of replacements. Dalglish has already reversed that situation but the new manager's emphasis on the development of

JESÚS GIL Y GIL, the coarse-

tongued owner of Atlético Madrid, the Spanish football

club, lunched alone on the eve

of his club's European Cup

quarter-final second leg tie,

snubbed by guests who ac-

Michael van Praag and

Louis van Gaal, the owner

and manager, respectively, of

Aiax, the Dutch club who

leg of the tie, tore up their

luncheon invitations after Gil

refused to apologise for re-

marks that he made when his

side played Ajax in Amster-

He gave great offence to the

Dutch on that occasion when

cused him of being a racist.

Meanwhile, he will be given

aged to spend quickly in pursuit of the missing quality. Kenny Dalglish is in total command of team selection. and the manager of Newcastle has always been backed financially by board," Sir John said.

"I know he's looking at

impressed by Kenny Dalglish as a manager. This is just a temporary setback. We came from nowhere in five years. and this is part of a learning curve. Our pride is hurt more than anything, because of the manner of defeat, but we will

Ajax officials snub Gil for

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

refusing to apologise

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

STEVE LODGE, of Barnsley, has been selected to referee the FA Cup Final at Wembley on May 17. It completes his 12year progression from the bottom of the Football League structure in 1984, when he became a linesman, to the top of the FA Carling Premiership. In England, being awarded the Cup Final is seen as the pinnacle of a referee's d a reward for long. distinguished service.

Last season. Lodge incurred the wrath of many managers when he issued more cautions than any other Premiership official. This season, he has kept a lower profile. Although he booked eight players in the Sunderland v Leicester City game on the opening day, he has since averaged less than three yellow cards per match. He has sent off only one player - Ian Wright, the Arsenal

"I suppose I've been lucky

with the fixtures," Lodge said. "I read that I was top of the booking list last season, but I haven't really altered my style of refereeing. Perhaps the reputation I had has helped. I always go by the old adage: if the referee isn't mentioned, he's had a good game." Lodge, 43, a local govern-

ment officer, began refereeing in 1970. He was the fourth tween Everton and Manchester United two years ago and has been on the list of Fifa, the sport's world governing body, for five years. He took charge of the World Cup qualifying match between Spain and Malta last month.

Neville Southall, the Everton goalkeeper, will play for Wales in their vital group seven World Cup qualifying tie against Belgium at the National Stadium on March 29. Southall, 38, missed the 0-0 draw against Ireland in

Cardiff last month because of "domestic" reasons, but Bob-by Gould, the Wales manager. said yesterday that Southall was certain to start the match. which Wales need to win to keep alive their hopes of reaching the finals in France next year.

Chris Wright, the owner of strengthen his side and that

Courage Clubs' Championship rugby union side, has announced a pre-tax loss of £4.4 million for the holding company at Loftus Road. It was made during the period from May 13, when the clubs reported. However, Wright is adamant that funds will be available for Stewart Houston, the QPR manager, to

Queens Park Rangers, the Nationwide League first divimerged, to November 30; a loss per share of 16.2p was

he described Ajax, who have several black players, as "something out of the Congo". Gil, whose robust utterances do much to enliven Spain's otherwise dull public Trevor Sinclair, the winger. life, made his observations to Spanish colleagues in his VIP

dam two weeks ago.

box. Someone - it is not known who - then spilt the frijoles to the Dutch press, leading to outrage and threats of legal action.

Condemnation was swift, with Spanish human rights groups describing Gil as "a model of intolerance".

Black players in the Spanish football league were also critical. One of them, Roberto find his remarks about black players very offensive. Gil's problem is that he has an enormous paunch, which impedes his vision."

Gil denies that he is a racist. He insists that his words were intended only as personal observations, and that he has "absolutely nothing to apologise for". The Dutch think otherwise and have promised to give their Spanish host the widest possible berth in Madrid.

This is not the first time that

Gil, who is also the Mayor of Marbella, on the Costa del Sol, has courted controversy. Early last year he punched a fellow football club owner for saying on the radio that the people of Marbella were "stupid for voting for that man

The incident, which occurred in public, shocked Spain, but Gil was unrependuty," he said later. "He should have shown more respect for the people of

Yesterday, however, it was from Gil that respect was demanded. A spokesman for Ajax said: "He should have by Hoddle. said sorry, but he hasn't." ☐ Hristo Stoichkov, the Barcelona striker, was named in the Bulgaria squad for the World Cup qualifying match

(Russ) 10; S. E. Berechnese and A. Sidharuhdze (Russ) 15; A. J. Meno and T. Sand (US) 20; S. K. Ina and J. Dungen (US) 2.5; 21. L. Rogers and M. Aldred (GB) 10.5.

alongside David Seaman, who against Cyprus on April 2 in hopes to recover from the back spite of his vow that he would injury that ruled him out of the not play for the national team. Italy defeat, and Ian Walker.

Westmanster 15.13 Junior novice: Pangbourne 16.36. J16 novice: Winchester 15.47 Glafs' Junior: Headington 16.24 Glafs' J86 George Westson's 17.29 Short course: Eights: J15: Lalymer Upper, 8.01 J15 novice: Monition Combe 8.26 Glafs novice: Pangbourne 9.29 Quade; J15: Windsor Boys 8.46. J15 novice: 8: George's 8.47 Glafs Junior novice: Pangy HS 9.30 Girls' J15: Lady Eleanor Holles 9.18 Fours: J15: Westmanster 8.55.

RUGBY UNION BUSA CHAMPIONSHIP: Finals: Mer Brunel University College 9 Loughboroug University 8 Women: University College 9 Mark and St. John 24 Edinburgh University College 1

CLUB MATCH: Gloucester 29 Army 36

BT GLOBAL CHALLENGE: Fourth leg: Latest positions (Sydney to Cape Town, with miles to Cape Town, as at 13:50 GMT yesterday) 1, Group 4 3,556, 2, Concert 3,599; 8, Seve The Children 3,577; 5, Global Tearmwork 3,585; 6, Commercial Union 3,596; 7, Motorola 3,804; 8, 3Com 3,662; 9, Time & Tide 3,665; 10, Oosen Rover 3,671; 11, Courtaulds International 3,715; 12, Pause To Remember 3,735, 13, Nuclear Bectno 3,747, 14, Health Insured II 3,769.

TENNIS

Draw puts Henman on course for Chang

FROM ALIX RAMSAY IN KEY BISCAYNE

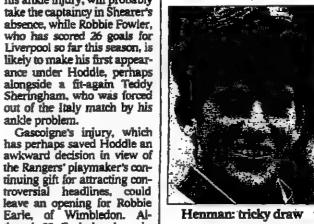
TIM HENMAN could be forgiven if he felt a sense of dejà vu as he cast his eyes over the draw for the Lipton Championships, which start here today. The first opponent for the Great Britain No I will be a qualifier — either Julian Alonso, from Spain, or Steve Bryan, from the United States - and from there he heads towards Michael Chang, possibly by way of Richey Reneberg. It all seems rather too like the Australian Open

for comfort. It was Chang who brought Henman's remarkable start to 1997 to a halt, sending him home from the third round of the first grand slam of the year in straight sets. It was, by Henman's admission, a bad day at the office.

He had another one in the first round in Dubai, a mediocre day in the final in Antwerp, another in Milan and not a lot since, thanks to an elbow injury. If Henman wants to improve his recent work record he needs to rack up some overtime.

Nor does the subsequent draw look too inviting. Should Henman get past Chang — who won in Indian. Wells last week - Thomas Enqvist, the No 6 seed, lies in wait before the chance of a meeting with Pete Sampras in the semi-finals. Like Henman, Sampras started off the year in top gear, but, unlike Henman, he has maintained the effort.

There are, however, some serious hurdles on Sampras's way to the latter stages. He faces the possibilty of a quar-



Henman: tricky draw

ter-final showdown with Boris Becker, who will be easing after a recurrence of the injury that put him out of Wimbledon last year and kept him off the circuit for three months.

Then again, Carlos Moya, who did for Becker in the first round in Australia, could face the German in the fourth round and be his undoing yet again.

As for the champion, Andre Agassi, the only sure thing about his form of late is that he continues to confound all those who watch him, supporters and critics alike. He won last year, when Goran Ivanisevic pulled out of the final with a neck injury, and then played like a drain through the European claycourt season and on into Wimbledon, Just when he looked to have hit rock bottom, Agassi won the Olympic gold medal in Atlanta. If there is any rhyme or reason to the American's form, it is that he does not travel well.

The women's game has more of a spring in its step this year. Rather than relying on the old stalwarts Steffi Graf and Monica Seles to make the headlines, the women are ready to crown Martina Hingis as the new queen of the rankings.

Regardless of what she does here in the coming days. she will take over from Graf as world No 1 at the end of the tournament. Graf, who is still fighting with a knee injury, is unable to defend the title she has won for the past three years.

Just to ginger things up in the women's ranks, Venus Williams will make her Lipton debut - against Ginger Helgeson Neilson, from the United States - with the chance to meet Jennifer Capriati in the second round.

UEFA CUP: Quarter-finate, second leg: A8
Monaco 3 Mexicania Limital 0 (Monaco wini
4-0 on aggregate); Brondby IF 0 Tenente 2;
ew; Tenente win 2-1 on aggregate);
internazionale 2 Andersech 1 (Inter vim 3-2
on aggregate): Valencia 1 Schalke 04 1
(Schalke win 3-1 on aggregate)
FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Wimoledon

Coventry... 31 6 12 13 26 43 30

North For .. 31 6 17 14 26 47 29

Southampton 29 6 8 15 37 45 26

1 Middlesbro 28 7 7 14 40 50 25

1 Middlesbro 28 7 7 14 40 50 25

1 Middlesbrough deducted three points

NATIONWOB LEAGUE. First divisions

Botton Wanderers 4 Port Vale 2, loswich

Town 3 Shaffield United 1, Otheral United 3

Grinsby Town 2, Stoke City I Wolver-hampton Wanderers 6, Trainmere Rovers 1

Manchester City 1, Second divisions Bristol

City 0 Rotherham United 2 Crewe Alsoancia 0 Milwell 0: Preston North End 2

Wrestnam 1, Walsall 4 Blackpool 1 Watford

1 Bristol Rovers 0 Third divisions Carchit

City 1 Scarborough 1

AUTO WINDSCREDIA SHIELD: Morthwine

section: Final, first leg: Carliste United 3

Peterborough United 0 (act: 2-0 after

90mm, Colchester win 3-2 on aggregatio

with golden goul)

VAUDHALL CONFERENCE: Famborough

TUESDAY'S LATE FOOTBALL RESULTS

Cup: Semi-firmi, first teg: Morecambe 0
Maccestied flowr 2
DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier division;
Gloucester Cdy 6 Ashford Town 1;
Halesower 3 Dorchester 1, Sudbury Town 0
Afherstone 1. Midland division; Biston
Town 2 Reundo Town 2, Granthem Town 3
Moor Green 1, lifeston Town 4 Hinchley
Town 0; Stafford Pangers 2 Sutton Cooffield
Town 0; RC Warwick 1 Reddirch Und 2
Southern chivision; Fleet Town 1 Erdt and
Balveders 4; Weymouth 1 Farsham Town 1,
Yate Town 1 Crancester Town 1.
Vista Ender 4; Weymouth 1 Farsham Town 1,
Yate Town 1 Crancester Town 1.
CIS LEAGUE: Premiter division: Boretsam
Wood 3 Dagenham and Reddings 1,
Bromiey 2 Suffort United 1; Erffield 2
Carshaldro 0, Grays 0 Purfield 1; Hendon 0
Si Albana 2; Stames 2 Yeading 3, First
division: Unbridge 5 Toothing and Micham
United 0 Second division: Branther
Town 0 Horston 1; Hemel Hemposteed 0
Bedford Town 6 Third division: Branthee
Town 0 Harlow Town 0 Kingsbury Town 1
Homehunch 1
United Macces

Homehurch 1
Liviticand Livitale: Premier division
Barriber Bridge 1 Spennymoor 3: Chorley 2
Budon 2: Lancaster 0 Marine 2: Witton
Athon 1 Bishop Auctional 1. First divisions.
Curzon Ashton 3 Stocksbridge PS 1,
Mattick Town 3 Eastwood Town 0. Cup:
Semi-final, second leg: Carnaborough
Timity 3 Accomption Stenley 1 (Geinsborough
with 3-2 or aggregate)
CILERT LEAGLE OF WALES. Carnes 2
Welstmond 0

Welshpool 0
UNLET SUSSEX LEAGUE: First division:
Hailsham Town 1 Burgess Hill Town 2Hailsham Town 1 Burgess Hill Town 2Hailshawk 3, Peacehaven and Telscombo 0
Pingmar 2, Southwach 5 Selsey 0
AWON INSURANCE COMERNATION: Furst
division: West Ham Unded 0 Portsmouth 4
PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division:
Sheffeld Wednesday 0 Blackburn Rovers 1
First division: Notis County 2 Coveriny 2
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would be staying.

Michaele 1. MoRTHE LEAGUE: Press division: Alberton College 9 Publication of Press of Publication of Press of Publication of P WORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Ashheld United 1

Morthlern Counties East LEAGUE:
Premier division: Ashheld United 1
Liversedge 1, Hatfield Main 0 Pickering
Town 2. President's Cup: Final, second
leg: Hucknell Town 3 Belper Town 1
(Hucknell vin 3-2 on aggregate)
WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First
division: Folkestone Invicte 0 Furness 1:
Hythe United 2 Herne Bay 0, Yunbindge
Welt 1 Stade Green 0 Whatstable Town 2
Ramsgare 1: Deal Town 3 Londewood 1.
JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE:
Premier division: Claston Town 2
Woodbridge Town 3 Des Town 0 Windham 2
Lowestoll Town 1 Great Yamsquin Town 1;
March Town Utd 1 Bury Town 3. Newmerkst
Town 2 Fakenham Town 1.
COURAGE COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE:
Premier division: Ashfried Town 3
Vinnig Sports 2 Cove 2 Sandhurst Town 2
MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE:
Premier division: Buclongham Alin 3 Brache
Soarts 1; Harpenden Town 2 Blogleswade
Town 1 Toddington Rovers 0: Royston Town
1 Welwyn Garden Cny 0
BASS IRISH CUP. Outstre-line1
Linswerdy Utd 0 Omach Town 1
SCHOOLS MATCH: Austra 0 Southins 2 (in Linz)

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Austra 0 Southins 2 (in Linz)

BASKETBALL

PERTIH: Women's home International indoor champlonehips: England 134 Wates 98 (England Skps first fill Proc bit 8 Morgan 27-14" M Steele bit R Jones 28-20; 8 Alcienzon bit A Denrition 17-14; J Roylance bit D Rowlands 24-16, 10 Hankin bit J Ackland 21-15, N Shew lost to G Mites 17-208.

West Indies v India

BOWLING Prasad 20-7-38-0, Kurumila. 23-6-47-1, Kurnbila 40-9-109-2; Joshi 23-6-47-1, Kumbila 40-9-109-2; Joshi 16-11-57-3; Ganguly 3-0-6-0, Lauman 9-3-

FOR THE RECORD

ICE HOCKEY ICE SKATING

Stoleo (Caru 2.0, 5, A Yagudin (Russ) 2.5; 17, S Cousins (GB) 8.5 Pairs (after short programmel: 1, M Wootcal and I Sleuer (Ger) 0.5; 2, M Elsona and A Bushlov

e (US) 1 0: 3, I Pulls (Puss) 1 5: 4, 6

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Kick-all 7.30 unless stated European Cup Winners' Cup AEN Athens (0) v Pans S-G (0) (7 15) . AIK Solna (1) v Barcelona (3) . Forentina (2) v Bentica (0) (7 45) Liverpool (1) v SK Brann (1) (7.45)

PONTRY'S LEAGUE: First diver Leicester v Sheffield United (7.0). ENDSLEIGH MIDLAND COMBINATION: Printier division: Alvechuich v Knowle

LONDOIL Schools femal of the rever race Long course. Eights: 1. St Edward's 12min 59ser: 2. St Paul's 13 00, equal 3, Hamptor and Abrigdom, 13.07; S. Radiey 13 08, 65 Strewsbury 13 09, 7, King's Chester 13 12, 8, Etch 13 13; 9, Kingston GS 13 15; 10 Quardie 13 19 Divisional wirmers: second eights: Blon 13.21. Third eligible: Radiey 13 58 Smell school: Royal Bellast Al 13 41, Junior 16; Reddey 13 mins 46 Girts: Larli Eleenor Holles 14 48 Quardis: Junior; St William Bortase 13.51 J18; Tillin 14 11 Girts: Junior: Ning's Canterbury 13 13 Fourne: Junior: St Edward's 15 17 J18;

DR MARITENS LEAGUE: Premier di-UM MARTENS LEAGUE Premier di-vision: Sudbury Town v Baldook.
LIMBOND LEAGUE UMBER first Givinton
Cup: Semi-first, second lag: Harrogate
Town (1) v Astron United (2). Semi-first,
first leg: Radelitle v Stockstratge PS.
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION:
First division: Wadord v Charlton (at
Chesham PC)
DOMMINE (1998)

Under-15 meriminate: Journal of Vernier Leagh (at Inverses, 715) FA Premier Leagh Trophy: Under-18; Semi-linat: Hampahi v Noriolik (at Southampion University, 3 (Under-18; Semi-line): Oxfortisties v Devi Under-16: Sam-wine: Crediosale V Bowl (al Abrigdon Town, 7 O). English Snickers Under-19 Trophy: Quarter-final: St Culberts. Nortrumberland v Why Call-ege. Humberside (1.30). English Girls Under-16 Vinnio Trophy: Sami-final Under-16 Vinnio Trophy: Sami-final Season Burn, Northamberland v Montgon-

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Leopards v Leicester (7.0). BOWLS: Women's home inte SNOOKER: Benson and Hedges Irish Mesters (Co Kildare)

ST PETERSBURG: Men's tournament:
First round: M Stich (Ger) bit R Fromberg
(Aus) 4-6, 7-5, 7-6; N Marques (Por) bit R
Selov (Rus) 6-4, 6-2. D Vacet, (C2) bit P
Fredrickseon (Swe) 6-4, 3-6, 6-2; S Simen
(Fr) bit (N Kucera (Storaka) 6-4, 6-3; M
Norman (Swe) bit) Winnink (Holl) 7-5, 6-4; D
Frencal (Ger) bit L Rehmann (Ger) 6-2, 6-2; R
Furfan (R) bit L Bügsmußer (Ger) 7-8, 7-8; O
Stamoticher (Huss) bit G Pozzi (II) 6-3, 6-4; A
Chement 6-fr) bit A Chimnelor (Reve) 7-2;

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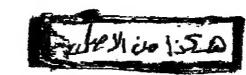
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ATHLETICS: BRITON IN GOOD SPIRITS FOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AFTER TWO HEART OPERATIONS

Tromans refuses to beat a retreat

By David Powell athletics correspondent

FOR the motorists who last saw Glynn Tromans lying flat by the roadside in his running kit, waving away offers of help though in apparent distress, it might please them to know he made a full recovery. Two heart operations later. Tromans makes his debut for Great Britain in the world cross-country championships in Turin on Sunday.

While out running, Tromans's chest would tighten and, if he continued, he would feel out of breath, start to wheeze and his heart would thump, sometimes reaching 220 beats per minute. "I would feel like I had just completed the London Marathon," Tromans said. "Full of lactic acid, drained and shattered."

As these attacks grew more frequent — he suffered more than 70 in all — he found that, by lying flat on the ground, his heart rate would soon return to normal. "People would stop in their cars and ask if I needed help."
Tromans recalled. "I would just lay there and say: 'I am alright, thanks very much'."

Which, of course, he was not. However, while medical experts strived for a year to diagnose his condition. Tromans stubbornly refused to abandon training. In an act of extraordinary defiance, he went to Cwmbran for his England track debut two summers ago after 11 attacks in the preceding month. As he was warming up for his 3,000 metres

race, another attack developed. "I had done my warm-up jog, and my stretching, and there wereprobably 15 minutes to go before the start." Tromans recalled. "I did my first stride down the track and the symptoms came on. I was thinking: What do I do? I know I am in trouble and a sensible person would not run, but I am making my England debut and it is just England against Wales, only four people in the race. I felt obliged." Tromans ran and finished second. There was neither rhyme not reason to the attacks. Sometimes they would occur when he was running hard, sometimes when he was running easy, "Sometimes I could run for two hours, sometimes only for half a minute." Tromans said.

Not that he was put off. "I never

thought of it in terms of being a serious health risk, although in retrospect I probably should have," Tromans said.

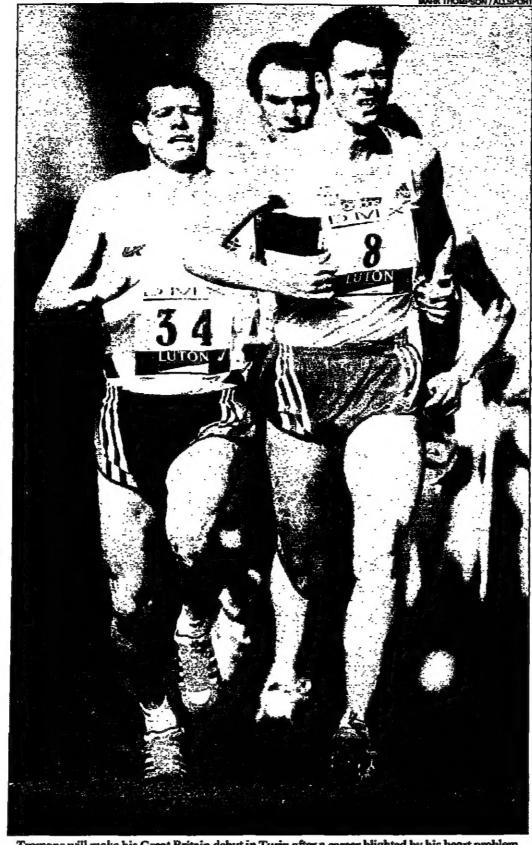
Although the attacks began in 1991, "they were not often enough to make me think there was something wrong." However, in 1995, his search for answers intensified, so frequent had the interruptions become. He had been forced to drop out of the world cross-country trial when in a qualifying position. Then he was frustrated in his attempt to impress lan Stewart, the British Athletic Federation head of promotions.

"I had gone to Birmingham to train and lan was there," Tromans said. "He had just replaced Andy Norman and I thought it would be a good chance to impress him. But I was unable to complete the session." His frustration grew as the list of those unable to cure him grew

They included his doctor, two hospitals in Coventry, where he lives, an asthma and allergy research centre, and the British Olympic Medical Centre. "I was chasing around looking for answers," Tromans said. "Nobody even mentioned the heart. The emphasis was on the difficulty breathing." Finally, Dr Frank Newton, the national cross-country team doctor, sent him to a cardiologist.

"I thought it might be a heart condition." Newton said. "Normally for an athlete, the maximum heart rate is 220 minus your age. He would go along comfortably at 150 and suddenly it would go up to 220 and he would get a pain in his chest," Tromans was found to have extra nerve pathways in his heart. "The operations were to cut the extra pathways so he is left only with the ones he should have." Newton added. "He was getting extra sets of electrical messages and the effect was to push his heart rate much too high. Now he is getting only one set of electrical messages."

Since his second operation, ten months ago. Tromans's heart has been fine, though old frustrations. those of injury, have returned. Tonsillitis, stress fractures in both legs and a knee operation have



Tromans will make his Great Britain debut in Turin after a career blighted by his heart problem

contributed towards blank pages in his training diary over the years, and he would have made his Great Britain debut in November but for a calf strain.

"I did wonder whether I was iinxed." Tromans, 28. said. "I had been in the sport a long time and. just at the point where I was likely to make a breakthrough, something always seemed to go

wrong. However, at the British trials for Turin, he finished fourth.

booking his place, and prompting Bud Baldaro, a Great Britain team coach, to say: "You can liken this to the guy playing Sunday soccer who, in his middle to late twenties, suddenly vaults to Pre-

miership status. It was an appropriate analogy. given that Tromans began running in frustration at his failure to make his secondary school football team, though he later played for Coventry Schools while his athletics looked less promising:

he was 139th in his first English national, as a youth.

Now he is set for the world's hardest foot race, one more competitive than any Olympic or world championship track cometition, because the Kenvans, the Ethiopians and the Moroccans have nine to a team. "If I can finish in the top 50, that would be a good performance," Tromans said. Nothing like his remarkable performance in getting to the

Bournemouth's day of reckoning may echo long and loud

ANDREW

LONGMORE

screams the local paper. So what else is news? Bournemouth were born on the brink, have been there, tottering, eyes closed, one step away from oblivion, for much of their history. And now the day has come, the receivers have no more to offer, the creditors are hammering at the gates of Dean Court and the local people, who responded so

instinctively to the first appeals of the saviours, are inclined to let them in.

By tonight, AFC Bournemouth might no longer be a Football League club and thousands of supporters will go dewy-eyed and say what a disgrace it is that this should be allowed to happen to a club as well regarded as the Cherries. But what are the options? Not just for Bournemouth, but for so many of the lower-division clubs whose finances are held together by balsawood and cotton thread.

Darlington, with its obsolete wooden stand and its orange Portakabins, with its tin shed and tinpot management. Or Brighton, who will announce another rescue deal today, but still have no ground and no proper future. Or Doncaster Rovers, or Hartlepool United or Lincoln City. At least 20 clubs in the second and third divisions of the Nationwide League are threatened. Graham Kelly, the much derided chief executive

of the Football Association and longtime supporter of Blackpool, is right when he says that the future of the lower divisions is the most important issue facing football in this country over the next decade.

The whole issue is shot through with arrogance. It is the arrogance of right, of entitlement, of the argument that something is automatically good because it has been there a long time. Listen to any bunch of supporters for any length of time and you will hear the wonderful, breathtaking arrogance of the little club man. Maybe optimism would be a kinder word. I travelled with Fulham once, down

to Swansea, for a last-day-of-the-season relegation decider. Fulham, as ever, were in dire straits off the field as well as on it. Craven Cottage was about to be sold and the club in debt. By the Chieveley services, rumours that a sugar daddy was on the brink of buying the club were circulating like wildfire, by the Severn Bridge, the name of Richard Branson had been it to the potential saviour. outskirts of Swansea, he was all but writing the cheque by five o'clock, Fulham were relegated to the bottom division for the first time and it was all

the manager's fault. "See you next season," one supporter said, as he headed off into the night.

BY RAYMOND KEENE

CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Gawain Jones, 9, a pupil at Ampleforth Junior School and

graded a lowly 117 on the British Chess Federation scale, has be-

come the youngest player in the history of chess to beat an inter-national master in an official tournament game. His victim was

player and chess correspondent for The Daily Telegraph. Gawain is the British Under-10 champion

and has been jointly trained by two

experts, Leonard Barden and Ar-gus Dunnington. The nine-year-old's sensational victory came in a quick-play tournament at Stockton

which had attracted many of the country's leading players, includ-ing grandmasters Michael Adams,

Bogdan Lalic and Stuart Con-

Bogdan Laile and Stuart Con-quest. Apart from winning this remarkable game. Gawain also surprised experts by sharing fourth place in the tournament ahead of the reigning British champion Chris Ward.

The game itself was a com-

The game itself was a com-plicated affair. The nine-year-old resisted stoutly against the mas-ter's superior strategic skills. Ga-wain did his best to muddy the

waters but in the diagram position he chose the passive retreat 23 ... Nh6, which allowed Pein to estab-

lish a winning position. Instead 23 ... Nd6 24 exd6 Rxc3, might have

kept some tactical chances alive for

Black. In the final position Black's situation must be considered lost

but at that point Pein's clock time

have been published

White: Malcolm Pein

World record

"If there is a next season," muttered another. Of course, there will be. There is always another season. But perhaps not for Bournemouth.

Bournemouth have been there a long time, since 1899. For the past 87 years they have plied their trade at a quaint little home called Dean Court. They are part of the fabric of the town, a tassel rather than a central thread, but important in an "every town must have one" way. They are supported by 3,000 or 4,000 regulars, good people such as Trevor Watkins, a London-based solicitor, who has tried his heart out to resurrect the club his father

weaned him on 30-odd years ago. There are plenty like him up and down the country, but not enough. Otherwise, so many clubs would not be so close to extinction. If Brighton supporters had taken more care of their club all along, perhaps their plight might have been averted a few

years ago. But still the arrogance persists. most recently in the rejection of the idea of feeder clubs. We are a League club, therefore we will survive. We must do, because everyone else does. It is the pack-of-cards theory of construc-

Would it be a tragedy if Brighton went out of the League? No, not really. It is economics and there are any number of thrusting Vauxhall Conference sides with spanking new stands

and a new coat of paint on the dressing-room walls ready to take their place. Lower-division clubs should not be fautasising about Wimbledon, but about Wycombe Wanderers, who are struggling this season, but have maintained a Thatcherite grip on their purse-strings throughout their rise.

No one who has supported their home club for 30 years, the Plymouth Argyles, the Rotherham Uniteds and the Walsalls, only to find his offspring wearing a Dennis Bergkamp shirt, will need reminding how times have changed. The FA Carling Premiership and increased television coverage have warped allegiances so that the poorer clubs have to change their attitudes, get smart and cast away their ludicrous pretensions.

Today, in a Liverpool court, the Inland Revenue and the Customs and Excise will ask the judge for their £300,000 or a winding-up order for Bournemouth, the sixth in as many months. The club will ask for more time. Again. If Bournemouth go. Brighton will stay in the league and be saved. Sooner or later, others will not be so lucky. Then again, look on the bright side the judge just might be a Tranmere Rovers fan.

☐ John Bryant is away

KEENE on CHESS

NI3

Nc3

8 Qe2 9 Bxd7 10 Be3 11 Nt3 12 D-0-0

14 h3 15 e5

16 Rhe1 17 a3

18 axb4 19 BI2

Sicilian Defence

g6 Bg7 Bd7 0-0

Cocto Cocto Noce Nh5 Rec8 Cocto Ng3 Nb4 Pac3

Rc7 Qe4 Rtc8 ctxe5

Diagram of position after White's 23rd move

et still t

Nh6 Ob3

SNOOKER: FORMER WORLD CHAMPION NARROWLY AVOIDS MAKING EARLY EXIT

Parrott ends Murphy's stout resistance

FROM PHIL YATES IN CO KILDARE

STEPHEN MURPHY gave John Parrott a considerable scare in the Benson and Hedges Irish Masters at Goffs here yesterday before the former world champion defeated him 6-5 in a keenly contested first-round match.

Murphy, the world No 61, who received a wild-card entry into the tournament, led 2-0 and even though Parrott subsequently compiled breaks of

CONTRACTS & TENDERS

48, 67 and 129, the highest of the event so far, to move 43 ahead, he was unable to stifle the stubborn resistance of his inexperienced but clearly determined rival.

Trailing 5-4, Murphy comfortably won the tenth frame and threatened to cause arguably the biggest upset in the tournament's 19-year history when on a run of 17 and occupying prime scoring position in the decider. However, Murphy, a mem-

ber of the Ireland team who

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equalification Document must be duly completed and returned to ent. Main Tender Board, Accountant-General's Office. Treasury ers, Nacosia-Cyprus, to be received before 9,00am local time on the control of the control

surprisingly figured in the final of the World Cup in November, missed a vital black and Parrott put together a contribution of 51 to set up a meeting with Darren Morgan, the defending champion. in the quarter-finals.

Stephen Hendry, the fa-vourite for the £72,000 first prize and his fifth title of the season, enters the fray this evening with a quarter-final against Jimmy White, an opponent to whom he has lost only once in the past five

years. White's confidence, which is returning after a dismal start to the season, was further bolstered by a 6-3 firstround victory over Alan McManus on Tuesday. Even so. Hendry is widely expected to progress, having beaten White 5-2 in the quarter-finals of the recent International

Open and the last to of the

Thailand Open eight days

0171-782 7344

RESULTS: Yesterday First round: J Parrott (English & Murphy that 6-5 Late Tuesday A O'Sullivan (English N Bond (English)

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

When dummy has shortage in a side suit, most declarers will appreciate the possibility of ruffing that suit. But it is more difficult to spot when dummy has three of the critical suit. This is an example from the Great Northern Pairs.

Dealer West F-W game

	Dealer Mest	E-vv Same	Marcabonnea bens		
	±Q1672 ∀K +Q52 +KQJ52	+A86 +A10 +AJ64 +A1084 N W E	+J4 *QJ54 +109273		
_	₩	4 K953 ♥987632 •K 4 76	E	s	
	Pages Pages Pages All Pages	1C 2NT 3NT	Pass Pass Pass	1H 35 4H	
	Southern Four House by Poully Londy blue of chile				

Contract: Four Hearts by South. Lead: king of clubs

West is close to an opening bid, despite his singleton king. Using traditional methods, South could sign off in Three Hearts over 2 NT. but the modern trend at duplicate is to play more and more bids as forcing. Hence North-South found themselves in a margin-

Declarer's first priority is to shed the club loser, so he must take the ace of clubs, the king of diamonds, cross to dummy with a major-suit ace, and discard his second club on the ace of diamonds. That is still only nine tricks. In practice, some declarers made a tenth by establishing the jack of diamonds. However, at our

featured table South took a simpler and more elegant course. He crossed to dummy with the ace of spades, and cashed the ace of diamonds. Then he played king and another spade, and eventually ruffed his long spade with dummy's ten of trumps. In all he lost just a spade and two trump tricks.

Matchnointed pairs

Notice that if declarer had crossed to dummy with the ace of hearts. East could have ruffed the third spade low and drawn dummy's remaining ☐ Robert Sheehan writes on

bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

By Philip Howard

WORD-WATCHING

CHANK

a. An old golf club b. To disagree c. The shell of a gasteropod

CHANOYU a. Japanese tea ceremony A Judo throw

c. Black mica

CHAPE a. Brass-rubbing b. A plate on a scabbard

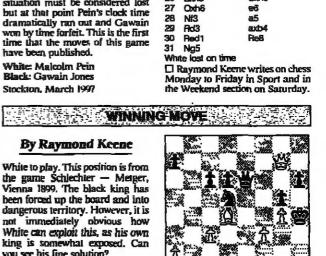
c. An instrument of torture CHAYOTE a. A Dingo cross b. An extinct fish

Answers on page 54

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Schlechter — Metger, Vienna 1899. The black king has been forced up the board and into dangerous territory. However, it is immediately obvious how White can exploit this, as his own king is somewhat exposed. Can you see his fine solution?

Solution on page 54



particular project.

valiation, pervenient strengthening and periodic maintenance of suburban roads. Estimated construction values for the candidate will very from 0.5 to 10.0 million U.S. dollars. Construction r the various schemes will vary between 6 months and 1.2 months, lepending on the particular project. segmini requirement that all aspects of construction shall generally accupted standards in compliance wi y recognised specifications for materials and workmanchi internationally recognised specifications for maintain any working 3. Prequalification is open to road construction firms and lotter Venti such firms workforder. However, prequalification shall be subjet approved by any relevant Funding Body which may finance the case schemes. Local contractors mass be registered in accordance with Cyptus Registration and Control of Contractors Law and be classifi-the First Category for Civil Works. or, Public Works Department.

Communications and Works.

sion, Procurement Section.

Telefax: 02-448001, Tel: 02-302808 is from the 2nd April 1997. To avoid delays interested contractors are idvised to obtain the Prognatification Document either at person or brough an authorised representative.

meeting of the creditors of Tractors Limited in to be

LEGAL NOTICES

SRE Rancock, It cive Receiver, I Limited 13 March 1997

DATED THIS 14th March 1997 IJSchaples, ACA Liquidator

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DATED THIS 14TH DAY OF MARCH 1997

KEYDIME LIMITED NOTICE IS HERREY GIVEN possess to Section 98 of The Immory Act 1986 that a meeting the Creditors of the above name of the Immorphy of the Immo

laried this 12th March 1997 farryn | Dawson, Directur

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TO PLACE NOTICES FOR

Notices are subject to confirmation and ould be received by 2.30pm two days pri to insertion.

c. A tropical cucumber

in the past

Men's final at world championships promises to set new standards

Skaters taking a quantum leap through the wall

STATISTICIANS talk about the Right Wall. It is the vertical line on the grass beyond which you cannot go. Further improvement, greater complexity, additional aspiration: none of these can exist beyond the Right Wall. The speed of light is a Right Wall: so is absolute zero. You simply cannot be faster or colder than these two things.

It is the task of the great athlete - perhaps of human kind - to storm that Right Wall. The history of sport turns and turns again on the battering of one illusory obstacle after another. The most famous of all these was the four-minute mile. It looked like a Right Wall, it felt like a Right Wall, but when men and the time were right, it turned out to be a paper hoop. Roger Bannister plunged through it and hundreds of athletes have

It is beyond question that a Right Wall exists for physical achieve-ments, but where exactly does it lie? As athletes have crashed through a succession of paper hoops throughout sporting history, so they have inched and centimetred their way towards the real Right Wall. The nine-

second 100 metres? The twohour marathon? No doubt future generations of sports writers will discuss such matters in centuries to come. In the sport of ice skating.

the Right Wall has always been the quad. The quadruple jump: four rotations, 1440 degrees. Triples have become commonplace, the bread and butter of the elite. What sorts out the champions from the rest thus far has been the combinations: to bounce from triple to triple, and to do so clean, hard and high: that is what winners do, must do. And here, it seems, they dwelt at the foot of the Right Wall. No longer. Here, at the

world figure skating championships, all this is being redefined. For the first time the world championship will be decided by a new standard. Who quads wins.

leading contenders at the championships are

men's event. All three have aiready taken off in quad jumps in this competition: but only two of them have

"It looks easy." Alexei Urmanov, of Russia, said, but the last two practices it was a problem for me." Ilya Kulik, another Russian, also nailed - American sportspeak for practically any form of success - his quad. This was after breaking a blade off his skates when practising a mere triple. His mother managed to send him a replacement from Russia and the new blade is

working like a charm. Elvis Stojko, the gloriously named Canadian, has long been fighting a crusade to most macho of all sports. He prefers wearing leather wristbands and torn jeans to swan costumes and frilly blouses. Musical interpretation is for

Three leading contenders have taken off in quad jumps in the competition, but only two have landed'

> wimps: you glide for show, but you quad for dough.

He was the quadder who missed, though, tumbling on landing. "But it felt good. We are on track for Thursday," he said. Stoiko is also a black belt in the martial arts, perhaps the only form of art he really recognises. "Martial arts help me remain composed," he said. "It looks good and there will definitely be a quadruple in the programme."

This was after the men's short programme yesterday, which provides a third of the total marks: the real showdown comes in the free pro-gramme tonight. The qualifying programme is for throwing down the gauntlet. The short programme, with its various "required elements", for setting the standard. Tonight is the shoot-out.

Yet there are a couple of ironies here for quad watchwas set by the defending champion, Todd Eldredge, of the United threatening to perform a quad States, who is a quad-free jump tonight in the final of the zone. His short programme

was a performance of breathtaking precision, all clean and perfect edges and jumps that flowed rather than shook the The scene-stealer was, of

course, a Frenchman. You can always tell a French skater by the discrepancies in the marking. Nearly a full mark separated the judges' response to Laurent Tobel after his glorious, knockabout, Fernandelesque routine. "My style is a result of my personality," he shrugged afterwards. He will not win or even come close, but his performance today will bring the house down.

The quad has been landed a few times before. Kurt Browning, of Canada, was the first in 1988, but Urmanov and Stojko landed one in 1991. In iceskating no jump is 100 per cent reliable: every triple is a risk and that is where the sport comes into the whole business.

And with a quad the odds are stacked against you. Stojko has tried and missed with quads in successive world championships. but he is fancied here to pull off a big one: a quadruple followed by a triple in combination, seven revolutions in a

couple of seconds. He has already done it once in competition this year. To do it again would be to play an ace. His coach, Doug Leigh, never tires of telling us that more people have landed on the moon than have landed a quad-triple. Canadians have made a habit of relocating skating's Right Wall. In 1962, Donald Jackson landed the first triple lutz; in 1978, Vern Taylor nailed the first triple axel. Then came Browning's earth-shattering first quad and then Stojko's combination. However, Stojko's rough, but effective, short programme left him in fourth place yesterday.

The advantage was stolen by Urmanov, a sumptuous routine from a man who has never understood that grace can compromise your masculinity. But then he is seriously Russian. He is in pole position going into the free programme biggest shoot-out in ice skat-

Results, page 52



Stojko was first to perform a quad-triple combination and may attempt another tonight

Urmanov holds narrow lead

ALEXEI URMANOV, the Olympic champion from Russia, narrowly beat off the challenge of his rivals to hold first place after the men's short programme at the world figure skating championships in Lausanne yesterday. He is ahead of Todd Eldredge, of the United States, and Ilya Kulik, of Russia. If any one of the leading three wins the programme today, he will take the gold medal.

Elvis Stojko, of Canada, the champion in 1994 and 1995, Alexe Yagudin, another Russian and only 17, in fifth place. All the leading skaters performed the difficult triple axel-triple

toe loop combination in their routines, but it was the pre-sentation that proved decisive. Urmanov's routine, performed to a hard rock beat. earned him eight 5.9s in the presentation mark, compared

ed to Eldredge for his interpretation of Walk on the Wild "It was a tough start to the competition, so many good programmes, but I feel great and I skated well," Urmanov said. "It's going to be tough iomorrow. going to come out fighting for

the gold medal and, of course,

there will be a quad in the

programme." The quadruple

with the string of 5.8s award-

jump involves making four rotations and at least ten skaters are capable of landing a quad in the final free

Stojko has a chance of taking gold, but he has to win today and hope that Urmanov falters badly. He has never hedged on attempting a quad and hit the first quad-triple combination in competitive history at the Champions Final last month. Urmanov said he was ready too, after hitting an easy quad in quali-

Kulik is looking for more than a simple quad. "If my quad is good then I will try the

HOCKEY

England washed away by Dutch tidal wave

Holland.

IN KARACHI

As one-sided as the result

conceded when Fordham was

under suspension. Holland led 1-0 at half-time, Lomans having converted a short corner in the 29th minute. Eikleboom, a substitute forward, increased their advantage two minutes into the second half and Broek added the third goal in the 55th minute, barely two min-utes after Garcia's ill-fated penalty stroke.

land were engulfed by a tidal wave of Dutch attacks. Veen, the captain, scored twice and Brock added the sixth goal a minute from time.

MINUTE from time.
ENGLAND: G Lewis; J Wallis, A Humphrey, W Waugh, B Genard, G Pordham, B Sharpe, J Pidoock, R Garcia (capt), R Contribly, M Poars Subs used: N Cornway.
D Hall, B Garrard.
HOLLAND: R Jansen. D Bree, A Jazet, D Loots, S van Reeswijk, S Veen (capt), J Delmos, S van de Weede, N Verne, I van Moer, D Burns. Subst used: B Lomans, M Efisicom, R Brook, Umpires: D Prior (Australia), Rashid Ah Khan (Palastan)

A discussion series chaired by Michael Buerk. With guests y Michael Buerk, Willingues David Cook, Janet Daley, Michael Mansfield, OC, and

Correspondent 12.00 News; You and Yours, with Mark Whittaker

mystery panel game, With Simon Brett and guests 12.55 1.00 The World at One, with Nick 1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55

Tadema in Liverpool and reviews George Bernard Shaw's Misalliance 4.45 Short Story: War-Torn, by

Richard Reeve. Read by ephen Thorne

uses the clues gleaned from gardens of different religious cultures to explore our ideas

African leaders about the resurgence in tribal loyalties and the disillusionment with

the modern state (r) 8.45 Stages of Redempt Chaim Potok (5/8)

10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Duel,

Montague (5/6)
11.30 Utopia and Other
Destinations (FM), lan
McEwan explains his idea of
Utopia (1/6)(r)
11.30 Today in Parliament (LW)
12.00 News 12.30am The Late
Book: The Hobbit, by

FREQUENCY GUIDE RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 902-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosembry Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McHamara.

CHANOYU

CHAPE

French for a churchman's cope, from the Latin capa a hood, CHAYOTE

edule), cultivated for its wholesome, succulent fruit

I Qxh6+1 Qxh6 2 Kh2! And mate with 3 Bf2 follows.

Omnibus Book of The Sanday Times Crosswords. The Sand Catallica Science Consumers. The Times Crosswords. The Times Book of The Times Junibo Crosswords (Cryptici MAW each. The Times Night Sky 1997 E3-50.

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WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 53

(c) A large kind of shell (Turbinella rapa) prized by the Hindus, and used by them for offering libations, as a horn to blow at the temples, and for cutting into armlets and other ornaments. It is found specially in the Gulf of Manaar. From Sanskrit into

(a) The Japanese tea ceremony. Transliteration of the Japanese

(b) The metal plate or mounting of a scabbard or sheath. Particularly that which covers the point. In some early quotations it may mean the scabbard or sheath itself. From the

(c) The chocho or tropical cucumber. A native name in Brazil. The name in the West Indies of a cucurbitaceous plant (Sechium

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

Britons fall short in head-to-head contest

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN TIGNES, FRANCE

SKIING

THE growing attraction of the dual slalom discipline — racing head-to-head down short, parallel courses — was underlined by a thrilling final to the international team parallel slalom at the British Land national championships here vesterday.

A strong Austria 2 team, lead by Christian Schwaiger. who is coaching the British men's technical team, and featuring a mix of younger athletes and coaches, were held to a dead heat by the Great Britain B team of Mark Reilly, Shona Robertson, Finlay Mickel and John Moulder-Brown. A re-run was called for and Schwaiger raced first and established a lead of one gate after Reilly hesitated between the start gate and the first turn. The British team, which

had an average age of just 20 was unable to get over that setback, but kept the final

> The British B team drew some consolation from a semifinal defeat of Great Britain A. who included Emma Carrick Anderson, the favourite to win the women's downhill, and Andrew Freshwater, the men's downhill champion.

> margin of defeat to less than

The head-to-head racing format is being endorsed increasingly by the International Ski Federation (FIS), which, for the first time, incorporated it in the Europa Cup finals in Les Arcs, France earlier this month. It will be a key part of the programme for the Europa Cup finals next year, when they will be held in Scotland for the first time.

FROM SYDNEY FRISKIN

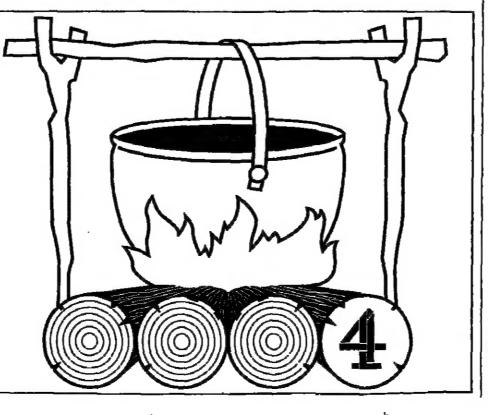
ENGLAND suffered a crushing defeat in the five-nation Golden Jubilee tournament here yesterday, Holland completing the rout by scoring three goals in the last nine

may seem, England had the edge in the first half, which ended with Crutchley shooting straight at the goalkeeper from a pass by Sharpe, who was England's strongest front

From then onwards, however, everything went wrong. Garcia's penalty stroke midhit a post and two goals were

From the 61st minute. Eng-

A Cook on the Wild Side: Tonight 8.30





Dr Rock Meets Jerry Lee Lewis. Radio 2, 10.00pm There are some broadcasters who have made a career out of knowing a number of people in a specific field extremely well and Charles White can truly be examted as one of them. Nothing remarkable where except that by profession he is a chiropodist. White, alias Dr. Rock, has spent a quarter of a century getting to know some of the leading figures in rock music, in between treating in-growing toenails in Scarborough. This series on Jerry Lee Lewis demonstrates that White has patiented as well as applicate for it is the product of

White has patience as well as patients, for it is the product of countless hours listening to Lewis, his several ex-wives and various musical associates. If you like the music you will love this. One Bright Child. Radio 4 (FM only), 10.00am.

The start of a five-part drama series which has a strong biographical feel, even before one consults the background notes that accompany it. The story concerns Gloria, who leaves Jamaica with her mother to emigrate to Britain in 1936. She has an unhappy time at school in London but sheer determination takes her to Cambridge University. But her ambition to become a lawyer is threatened when she meets and falls in long with Coorse who is white and stocking class. and falls in love with George, who is white and working class.
Patricia Cumper has based the story, albeit loosely, on the experiences of her mother. Diane Parish plays Gloria and Jamie Classe. Glover (son of Julian) is George, The director is Marian

Faith 8.15 Composer of the Month 8.48

Faith 8.15 Composer of the Morah 8.45 Health Matters 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Sports International 9.45 Sport 10.30 BBC English 10.45 Red Dwarf (6/12) 11.30 Mendian On Screen 12.05per World Business Report 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Assignment 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Multitrack 3.05 Sport 3.15

From Dur Own Correspondent 3.38.
Network UK 4.15 World Today 4.30 BBC
English 4.45 British Today 3.30 World
Business Report 5.45 Sport 6.30 Assignment 7.01 Outlook 7.25 Words of
Fath 7.30 John Peel 9.05 Business 9.15

Faith 7.30 John Peal 9.05 Susmess 9.15
Britain Today 9.30 Mendian Books:
10.30 World Today 10.45 Sport 11.10
Take Five 11.15 Soundbyle 11.30 World:
Renking 12.30 am Good Books: 12.45
Britain Today 1.30 Outlook 1.55 World,
of Faith 2.30 A History of the British
Theatre 3.15 Sport 3.30 Focus on Feith
4.30 Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00sm Mark Griffiths 6.00 Breekfast Show 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 Sosamnah Simons 2.00pm Lunchtime Concerto. Albrechtsberger (Harp Concerto in Cimajor) 3.00 Jame Crick 7.00 Classic Newsright 7.30 Sonata. Debussy (Cello Sonata) 8.00 Evening Concert. Respight (La Primavera): Beethoven (Sonata for Plano and Violan F Op 24 Spring): Schumann (Symphony No 1 in 8 flet Spring): Stravinsky (The Rite of Spring): 10.00. Michael Mappin 1.00em Sally Peterson

VIRGIN RADIO

Dane 1.00pm Jeremy Clerk 4.00 Nicky Home 7.00 Paul Coyte (FM) / Robin Banks (AM) 10.00 Mark Forest 2.00pm

4.15 Before Stravinsky, with

rearson looks at the continuing influence of the 1960s on today's pop music 5.15 in Turne, with Sean Rafferty, Includes Tchaikovsky (Elegy); Rossini (Overture: The Seige of Corinth); Haydn (Trumpet Concarto in Elist)
7.30 Rites of Southro, BRC

National Orchestra of Wa

Anthony Burton (2/2) 5.00 Music Machine. Tom Pearson looks at the

m Russ in Jono 10.00 Greham

RADIO 1

7.00mm Mark Radolitie, Includes Newsbeat 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo Whitey, includes at 12.30pm Newsbeat 2.00 Nicisy Campbel 4.00 Kevin Greening 6.15 Newsbeat 6.30 Evening Session with Steve Lamaco 8.30 John Peel 10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs 1.00mm Dave Pearce 4.00am Clive Warren with the Early Breakdast Show

RADIO 2

6.00mm Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debbie Thrower 3.00 Ed Skevart 5.05 Paul Heiney 7.00 Miles Meets Mighly Mouse. A beginner's guide to the world of computing 7.30 Devid Alian 9.00 Paul Jones 10.00 Dr Hock Miest Jeny Lee Lews. See Choice 11/3) 10.30 The Jamesons 12.05mm Steve Madden 3.00 Charles Nove

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breaklast Programme 9.00 The Magazine 12.00 Midday with Mair 2.00 Ruscoe on Rive 4.00 Nahonwide with Julian Womber 7.00 News Edits 7.35 The Thursday Match Commentary on the Cup Winners' Cup quarter-final, second leg between Liverpool and SK Brann, of Norway 9.30 Sportshop with Adrian Goldberg 10.00 News Talk with Paul Reynolds 11.00 News Edits with Vetarle Sanderson 12.00 After Hours — Early Call with Vincent Hanna 2.00am Early Call with Vincent Hanna 2.00em Up All Night with Rhod Sharp

TALK RADIO

5.00ams Chris Ashley and Sandy Wert 7.00 Paul Ross 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lorraine Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Pater Deeley 7.00 Moz Dee's Sportszone 10.00 James Whale 1.00am lan Collins

6.00am On Air. Includes Reger (Varietions and Fugue on a Theme of Mozart); Mozart (Oboe Concerto in C, K314); Carlo Farina (Capriccio Stravagante); Vaughan Williams (Five Variants on Dives and Lazarus); Sach (Trio Sonata No 6, BWV530)

Copland (Clarinet Concerto)
Morning Collection.
Includes Mussorgsky, arr.

Rimsky-Korsakov (Intermezzo in Modo Classico); Bach (Three Part Inventions, BW/787-801); Haydri (String Quartet in B flat, Op 76 No 4) Musical Encounters. Presented by Mairi Nicholson. Includes Barneau (Overture

Presented by Mairi Nicholson.
Includes Rameau (Overture
Platés); Grieg (Violin Sonata
No 3 in C minor, Op 45);
Tchalkovsky (Valse des
Fleura; Pas de Deuc Valse
Finale); Mozart (Piano Sonata
in B flat)

12.00 Composer of the Week:
Henry Courell

1.00pm in Repertory. The Times
opera critic, Rociney Milnes,
talks to Nicolai Gedda (5/5)

2.00 The BBC Orchestras. BBC
Philhamonic under Martyn Philharmonic under Martyn Brabbins, With Susan Parry, mazzo, Faifa (Interlude and Dance; El Amor Brujo; Three Comered Hai Suites Nos 1

and 2) (r)

3.00 BBC Symphony Chorus,
under Stephen Jackson. With
Leslay-Jana Rogers, soprano,
Deborah Miles-Johnson,
mezzo, Neil Mackenzie and
Chris Hobkirk, tenors, Simon
Birchall bees by this Brchall, bess. Rutti (Magnificat; Alpha and Omega; Nunc Dimittis; Missa Angelorum; O Magnum Muslerium)

ebber performs Scott's astoral and Reel mart to Be Smart. Rabbi Julia Neuberger recalls her student days at Cambridge 10.00 Music Restored, Women in Huste Hestored, Wornen in Early Music, With Anthony Rooley, lute, and Evelyn 7ubb, soprano. includes music by Purcell, Eocles and Blow (4/4) 10.45 Night Waves. The historian

10.45 Night Waves. The historian Roy Foster on the legacy of William Burler Yeats
11.30 Composers of the Week: Campra, Clérambault and Montéclair (r)
12.30 Jazz Notes, with Digloy Faireather. Includes a studio sesson by the claimetist Monty Sunshine and his band 1.00 Through the Night

RADIO 4

5,55am Shipping (LW) 6.00 News 6.10 Farming Toda News 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, includes Thought for the Day 8.40 Yesterday in riament rivs 9.05 The Moral Maze.

Dr. David Starley

10.00 News; One Bright Child
(PM), See Choice (1/5)

10.00 Daily Service (LW)

10.15 On This Day (LW)

10.30 Woman's Hour, with Jenni
Murray

11.30 From Our Own

12.25pm Foul Play. Murder

2.00 News; Thursday Afternoon
Play: All of Me Tempting,
by Max Hillman. With Peter
Salits and Rosemary Leach
3.00 News; The Afternoon Ship.
Includes the choristor Michael
Martis talking a limst beweith

Morris taking a final bow with the Hereford Choral Society 4.00 News 4.05 Kaleldoscope. Paul Allen sees an exhibition of the Victorian artist Alma-

5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.30 Harry Hill's Fruit Corner. A new six-part series for the offbeat comedian. With Burt Kwouk, Edna Dore, Al Murray, and Martin Hyder 7.00 News 7.05 The Archers 7.20 In Paradise. Noah Richter

of paradise (1/4)

8.00 Children of the Drum. The
Ugandan journalist Joel
Kiloazo talks to traditional

9.30 Does He Talee Sugar? The programme made for, and by, people with disabilities. With Frederick Dove
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) 9.59
Weather Weather 10.00 The World Tonight, with

by Joseph Conrad, Read by Stephen Boxer (4/5) 11.90 Pet Semetary. A dramatisation for radio of the chilling novel by Stephen King With John Sharlan, Briony Glassco and Lee Montague (5/6)

J.R.R. Tolkien. Read by Michael Hordem (14/15)(r) 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

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> 5.35 No photo-ECO News 5.30 Newsport Section (a.c. 7.00 Water 177 7.30 EastEnten

5.00

8.00 8.30 A Period State

8.00 News 9.30 Men Bentant, Berta

10.50 Chz :

Stravinsky (Fireworks; Apollo; The Faun and the Shepherdess; Patushka) 9.15 Paperback Writers, Andy Martin talks to the novelist and Nobel laureate Saul 10.20 0:::::: - - -Bellow (4/5)

9.40 The Man Who Started It All.
Philip Doghan, tenor, sings a selection of songs by the English composer and mystic Cyril Scott and Julian Lloyd Median Lengths.

11.30 Sear Fair 214

1.05em Westra

published on values.

ST NEWS

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Didactic but wonderfully entertaining stuff

scientists are good at meta-phors. Last night, the first of a new series of Seven Wonders of the World (BBC2) gave us Professor Aubrey Manning - an enthusiastic natural history professor in colourful knitwear - who described "parallel evolution" in simple and enlightening terms. Look at the early days of motorracing, he said; competing against each other were cars with big wheels, small wheels, wide wheels. But the variety was experimental, and destined not to last. If the racing-car is now boringly uni-form, that's because the best design won. Similarly, if evolution demanded a "best dog", sooner or later it would end up with a wolf.

Seven Wonders was a pleasant science programme, designed in a shamelessly Reithian way to infect us with informed enthusiasm. It was also cheap, with no special filming trips to the Grand Canyon, for example - just stock footage to-gether with a wistful look in Manning's eye (nice try. professor). Luckily he chose "Trees" and "Durham Cathedral" as well, thus giving him a couple of days out, although I must say I was worried by the Durham Cathedral section. Kicking off with an old clip of Alec Clifton-Taylor (speaking from a quarry), it momentarily suggested Manning had chosen Clifton-Taylor himself - a nice thought, but sacrilegious in the context, setting a mere man alongside such marvels as mechanical engineering.

But for a scientist with a knack for metaphor, one turned to Adam Curtis's gripping documentary The Way of All Flesh (in BBC2's Modern Times). The Way of All Flesh concerned the little-known (but vastly significant) story of the virulent cancer cells propagated from one single person's body: a black American woman called Henrietta Lacks. Ever since these

in 1951, they have burgeoned in test tubes around the world, and have run out of control. Cell biologist Walter Nelson-Rees blew the whistle on Henrietta in the 1970s. HeLa cells got into experiments like weeds, he said. Making circles with his outstretched forearms, he indicated "a rose here, a geranium there, but covering all his imaginary garden - thick and knotted - were Henrietta's weeds.

dam Curtis was the young chap who brought us Pandora's Box in the early 1990s, a fascinating series which illustrated failed scientific certainties of the 20th century. The modern faith in science to solve all ills turned out to be a faith that is repeatedly misplaced, "Can" and "do" are not words to be linked together so lightly. Viewers may remember his excellent DDT programme in which a die-hard DDT

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

supporter alarmingly poured white pesticide into his hand like Quaker Oats and licked it up. Curtis adores nostalgic American television footage - and with cancer research as his subject, he was well provided with it. Cancer Can be Conquered! actually leatured Dr Guy, the researcher who first used Henrietta Lacks's cells and made them grow, "I'm Bing Crosby," growled the emaciated

in aid of the American Cancer Society in the early 1970s. Joan Crawford made a terrifying speech from a lectern, exhorting the world to track down that cancer virus and kill it. People are dying, she explained. "I do Not Approve," she declared in ringing, patriotic tones, "And I am Not Resigned."

But declaring war on cancer seems not to have scared it much; meanwhile Henrietta Lacks's cells have inexplicably turned up in experiments all over the world, ruining them. In the early 1970s. the Russians announced they had found the cancer virus, but when findings were checked, it was the same old story. Walter Nelson-Rees was the man equipped with the handy imagery again: "Take your marbles home," he told those disappointed Russians. "We're not going to play with your marbles." It was a depressing time for the scientists. As a result of the

learnt that bits of their Mom were

Tollowing on from Modern Times, Jonathan Meades's Even Further Abroad (BBC2) explained the Andy Warhol approach to Campbell's soup tins, and extended it. "Anything is fantastical if you stare at it long enough," he said. "It's even more fantastical if you stare at hundreds of it." While demoralised cell scientists would be unlikely to agree, this theory provided Meades with a means to find installation art" in the uniform landscape of the fens - drainage pipes piled up, telegraph poles encamped together, tyres in heaps. The "open prison of the fens" is rich in linear forms, it turns out. Even the horizon is straight. Even the dancing is in lines.

Finally, talking of open prisons, the watchable Insiders (BBCI)

with a heavy-handed moral lesson on the importance of rehabilita-tion. Had prison-idiot Binnie (Graham Taylor) been adequately prepared for life outside? Well no, he hadn't. Instead, he had learnt to make model gypsy caravans out of matchsticks, and had taken excessive pride in his duties as bike monitor. He could, in short, be put behind glass as an example of Late 20th Century Hopelessly Institutionalised Man.

Naturally, one felt sorry for Binnie, but annoyed that the virtuous Woody (Adrian Rawlins) held himself in no way responsible for this state of affairs. To be honest, the virtuous Woody gets up my nose, Even when his PC instincts mislead him badly, he emerges justified — rather like the Tefloncoated Lorraine in EastEnders. Will Woody discover a fatal flaw in the closing episode next week — a knot in the pine, at last?

BBC1 6.00am Business Breakfast (86759)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (1) (74827) 9.00 Breakfast News Extra (1) (5983846) 9.20 Style Challenge (4230223) 9.45 Kilroy (T) (4910488) 10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (26117) 11.00 News (T); regional news and weather

11.05 The Really Useful Show (7548914) 11.35 Change That (8123846) 12.00 News (T) and weather (7080914) 12.05pm The Alphabet Game (5021117) 12.30 Going for a Song (6391265) 12.55 The Weather Show (79462049) 1.00 News (I) and weather (77914) 1.30 Regional News (83132594)

1.40 Neighbours (T) (11429001) 2.05 Quincy (5861001) 2.50 As Time Goes By (r) (1) (5755952) 3.20 Noble Castles Ragian, Followed by Shapes Of The Invisible (1305371)

3.30 Playdays (5981730) 3.50 Whami Bami Strawberry Jami (6347107) 4.05 Casper (1980020) 4.35 The Really Wild Show (T) 5935407) 5.00 Newsround (T) (3295310) 5.10 Grange Hill (T) (4412551) 5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (714643) 6.00 News (T) and weather (223)

6.30 Newsroom South East (575) 7.00 Watchdog (T) (7662) 7.30 EastEnders Biznes hears some shocking gossip about husband-to-be Ricky. Huw and Lenny's party is brought to an

abrupt end (1) (759) 8.00 Animal Hospital New series.
Roll Harris and the team go behind the scenes at Harripden Veterinary Hospital, Aylesbury (T) (6310) 8.30 A Perfect State Fathful Whitehall man Simon carries out his orders to the letter and pleads with the new independent states one sad only judge — with unexpected results (1) (2117)

9.00 News (T): regional news and weather (5049)

9.30 Men Behaving Badly: Bables Tony sneaks into Deborah's flat while she's Donothy tells Gary she wants to start a family (r) (T) (57575)

10.00 Chalik A sodh-form pupil gives birth,

prompting Eric Statt to deny any involvement with the girl. Comedy with David Bamber (T) (18198)

10.30 Question Time The Delence Secretary
Michael Portillo, the Liberal Democrati

peer Baroness Williams, the deputy editor of the Speciator, Anne McElvoy, and the Shadow Transport Secretary Andrew Smith join David Dimbleby to address Issues raised by members of the studio audience in London (81440)

11.30 Sarah, Philin and Tall (1991) starring Glenn Close, Christopher Walken and Lexi Randall. Sentimental drame, set in the early part of the century, about a kindly schoolteacher from Maine who travels to Kansas to help a widowed farmer to raise his family. Directed by Glenn Jordon (T) (885136) 1.05am Weather (3083841)

VideoPius+ and the Video PiusCodes The numbers need to each TV programme issing are Video Plus-Code "numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+" handset. Tap in the Video Plus-Code for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+ ("), Plus-code (") and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gernstar Development Ltd.

BBC2

6.00am Open University: The Sunbaskers (7919846) 8.25 A Winter Sleep (7921881) 6.50 Breathing Deeply (9753310) 7.15 News (7825001) 7.30 Wacky Races (r) (8686643) 7.55 Blue Peter (r) (T) (3066117) 8.20 Wishing (r) (7455594) 8.35 The Record (5642001) 9.00 The Science Collection (4218001) 9.25 Job Bank (7537117) 9.40 Megamaths (4385469) 10.00 Playdays (69407) 10.20 Storytime (7798204) 10.45 The

Storyime (7/98204) 10.45 1 ne Experimenter (2094952) 11.05 Space Ark (6957778) 11.15 in Living Memory (9909223) 11.35 Landmarks (8130136) 11.55 Techno (9747117) 12.15pm Quinze Minutes Plus (5183001) 12.30 Working Lunch (68681) 1.00 Liteschool (35037335) 1.25 Isabel (47241310) 1.45 Numbertime (83119643) 2.00 Wis (36741372) 2.10 Everyone's Got One (2900865) 3.00 News (T) 3.05 Westminster (4642020) 3.55 News (T) 4.00 Today's the Day (488) 4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (372) 5.00 Esther (T) (5440)

5.30 World Figure Skating Championship The original set pattern ice dance (952) 6,00 Star Treic Deep Space Nine (T)

6.45 Quantum Leap (r) (1) (707310)

7.30 First Sight: Living Longer, Caring Less What happened to the concept of care in the community in the South East (371) WALES: Local Heroes EAST: Matter of Fact MIDLANDS: Midlands Report NORTH/NORTH EAST/NORTH WEST/SOUTH WEST/WEST: Close Up SOUTH: Southern Eye

8,00 Local Heroes Science Special Celebrating the anni versaries of inventions that become part of our everyday lives (4952)

8.30 Top Geer Quentin Wilson goes for a ride in the Mercedes 600 stretch ismousine which once belonged to John Lennon, and Tony Meson test-drives the new Subaru Legacy (T) (5989)

9.00 Third Rock from the Sun Harry gets depressed because he feels he has no identity or purpose (T) (951914)



Sir Frank Whittle (9.25pm)

9.25 Horizon: Genius of the Jet The story of the jet engine and its inventor (T) (958759)

10.15 Travel Show Essential Guide Pauline Quirke and her husband on honeymoon in the palaces of northern India (330827) 10.28 Shapes of the Invisible (862001)

10.30 Newsnight (T) (972533) 11.15 World Figure Skating Cha The men's free programme (310681) 12.90 The Midnight Hour (40711)

12.30am Learning Zone: Open University Playing Sale (94044) 1.00 Redeveloping New York and Los Angeles (57452) 2.00 Communications and the Media (84976) 4.00 Sueños: Spanish (44518) 5.00 The

EUROSPORT

UK GOLD

CHOICE

Animal Hospital BBC1. 8.00pm

Rolf Harris continues to prove that it is possible to work with animals and not be upstaged as the show which regularly attracts II million viewers moves to the Hampden Veterinary Hospital in Aylesbury. This is the first time Animal Hospital has come from a country practice and while there will be the usual focus on the ailments of household pets, we shall also follow the hospital's team of farm and horse vets. For those with fond memories of All Creatures Great and Small, here is a taste of a real-life equivalent. As always, much of the impact will come from the sudden, unexpected dramas. But we are also promised more uramas, but we are also promised more predictable stories, such as lambing and calving, checking the health of exotic birds, treating dogs with cancer, and, wait for it, puppy socialisation classes.

BBC2, 8.00pm

When Adam Hart-Davis rode off at the end of his last series we thought that was the last we would hear for a while from the ebullient celebrant of daft, and sometimes not-so-daft, him back, for a one-off on bright ideas which have their anniversary during this very week Talking of March anniversaries, Hart-Davis could be marking the death of Newton or the birth of Einstein. But he quickly brushes them aside in favour of a dentist from Harrogate who, 100 years ago, patented an automatic egg-timer. Thanks to our resourceful host, Dr Thomas Gaddas's machine lives again. Such trivia are mixed of Uranus and Edward Muybridge's pioneering demonstration of motion pictures.

Original Sin ITV. 9.00pm

The mournful strains of what must be called the P. D. James theme herald the latest in a series of polished adaptations from the mistress of the thinking person's whodunnit. Original Sin has all the expected pleasures: murder in a closed world, this time of a publishing house a plot which has the ingenuity of Agatha Christie but with believable characters, and a hand-picked cust headed by Roy Marsden as the laconic, poet-policeman Adam Dalgliesh. It is a poison-pen letter which first brings Dalgliesh to the mock-Venetian head-quarters of the Peverell Press on the banks of the Thames but his investigation takes a darker turn when a senior editor is found dead from an overdose, Ian Bannen plays the senior partner and James Wilby the brash new managing director who had sucked the dead woman.

Horizon: Genius of the Jet BBC?, a_25pm

The story of Sir Frank Whittle and the jet engine says it all about great British inventions which were exploited by others and great British inventors insufficiently recognised in their own country. It is true that Whittle was knighted, and, very late in his life, awarded the Order of Meril, but he remained a figure more applauded in America (where he went to live) than he was here. Having pioneered the turbo jet which was to change the face of air travel, he saw his company marginalised and his career effectively over by the age of 41. Nicholas Jones's profile has the advantage of an interview, not previously shown, which Whittle gave in his old age. Surprisingly, perhaps, he is not hitter but he does reveal that the constant hattles against bureaucracy and lack of funds led to a series of Peter Waymark breakdowns.

HTV6.00am GMTV (6387682) 9.25 Chain Letters (T) (4215914)

9.55 Regional News (1) (5007001) 10.00 The Time, the Place (56933) 10.30 This Morning (80446010) 12,20pm Regional News (T) (7086198) 12.30 News (T) and weather (6319681)

12.54 HTV Crimestoppers (79458846) 12.55 Shortland Street (6394372) 1.25 Home and Away (T) (47236488) 1,50 Afternoon Live (11434933) 2,20 Vanessa (T) (440) 2.50 Afternoon Live (56486440)

3,20 News (T) (3200907) 3.25 Regional News (T) (4650448) 3.30 The Riddlers (2460597) 3.40 Wizadora (r) (9443730) 3.50 Cartoon Time (6348827) 3.55 Rupert (r) (5986285) 4.20 Mike and Angelo (1971372) 4.45 Reboot II (r) (T) (5926758

5.10 A Country Practice (5164575) 5.40 News (I) and weather (997049) 6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (731846) 6.25 HTV Weather (617827) 6.30 HTV News (1) (643)

7.00 Emmerdale Biff enjoys a taste of the high life with Steve (1) (2730) 7.30 3-D Julia Somerville introduces a profile of the world renowned car spy

photographer Bernd Rauh (T) (827) 8.00 The Biti Deakin and Skase investigate a fire and discover a grieving mother has inadvertently triggered a deadly series of

8.30 Michael Barrymore's Strike It Rich Game show (1) (7265)



Roy Mareden as Deigliesh (9.00pm)

9.00 PD James: Original Sin Roy Marsden returns in a new three-part murder mystery as det cum-poet Adam Dalgliesh (1) (7759) 10,00 News (T) and weather (38594)

10.30 Regional News (T) (476681) 10.40 The West This Week (829594) 11.30 Frieza Frame (324049)

11.45 The European Match Highlights Bob Wilson introduces highlights from tonight's quarier-final, second-leg tile belween Liverpool and SK Brann Bergen at Antield (486827)

12.15am Rugby World Cup Sevens Preview Jim Rosenthal reports from Hong Kong, as he looks forward to three days of rugby

1,15 in Bed with MeDinner (21228) 1.45 Funny Business (8319792)

2.10 Cyber Cate (5672353) 2.40 Stand and Deliver (r) (4461112) 3,40 The Good Sex Guide Late (r) (9402685) 4.30 The Time, the Place (r) (T) (56727)

5,00 Garden Calendar (r) (T) (45841)

5.30 News (45266)

SOMELLIMEANDPOARTS

CENTRAL

6.55-7.00 Lifeline (695865)

As HTV West except 12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (6394372) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (5164575) 6.25 Central News (749865)

10,40 The European Match (994136) 11.10 Do I Not Like That! (512952) 12.10am Rugby World Cup Sevene Preview (6678605)

1.15 Funny Business (3952773) 1.50 Ed's Night Party (8316605) 2.15 Club Nation (4738334) 3.10 Access All Areas (65403334) 3.40 Central Jobfinder '97 (675247)

WESTCOUNTRY

5.20 Asian Eye (8996247)

As HTV West except: 12,20cm-12,30 illumin 12.55-1.25 The Lost Gardens of Holigan

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (5164575) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (47198) 10.40 The European Match (994138) 11.10 Rugby World Cup Sevens Preview (512952)

12.10am Traps (6678605)

MERICIAN As HTV West except:

5.10pm-5.40 Home and Away (5164575) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (391) 5.30-7.00 Grass Roots (643) 10.40-11.40 Meridian Audit (534914) 11.40 The European Match (469681) 5,00mm Fresscreen (45841)

ANGLA As HTV West except:

12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (6394372) 6.25 Anglia News (749865) 6.55-7.00 What's On (695865) 10.40 Cover Story (994136) 11.10 The European Match (831594) 11.40 Crime Special Update (469681)

A CONTRACTOR OF STREET

Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street (79469) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (90865) 9.00 Bewitched (13643) 9,30 Ysgollon (490933) 12.00pm House to House (33407)

12.30 Ellen (60049) 1.00 Slot Meithrin (93952) 1.30 Collector's Lot (52020) 2.00 Racing from Doncaster (7372) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (556)

4.30 An Inspector Calls (440) 5.00 5 Pump (9376) 5.30 Countdown (420) 6.00 Newyddion 6 (355575)

6.05 Heno (742952) 6.35 Jacpot (624117) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (652223) 7.25 Pwy 'Di Pwy? (110020)

8.00 Pam Fi Duw? (9020) 8.30 Newyddion (5827) 9.00 Family Money (8001) 10.00 Film: The Handmaid's Tale (2339)

12.00am Dispetches (8862889)

12.45 Witness (119841)

6.00am Sesame Street (79469) 7.00 The Big Breaklast (90865) 9.00 Bewitched (r) (1)

CHANNEL 4

(13643)
9.30 Schools (T) Middle English Personal Non-Fiction Travel Writing, the chronicles of two young people on an outdoors adventure holiday (T) 9.45
Understanding Northern Ireland 10.05
Scientific Eye: Acids and Alkalis (T) 10.25
Geographical Eye Over Asia (T) 10.45
Worlds of Faith 11.00 History of Action 11.20 Ri Re (T) 11.40 German Programme (490933)

12.00 House to House (33407) 12.30pm Baby It's You (5/6) (r) (T) (60049) 1.00 Ellen (T) (93952) 1.30 Austrafia Wild (52020)

2.00 Racing from Doncaster Lesley Grahem introduces live coverage of the 2.05, 2.35, 3.10 and 3.40 races (7372)

4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (556) 4.30 Countdown (T) (440) 5.00 Rickl Lake (T) (9376) 5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (420) 6.00 Hangin' with Mr Cooper (1) (933) 6.30 Hollycaks Teen soap (1) (285)

7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (586914) 7.50 Black Holes of Science Why, 100 years after the discovery of electrons, do we still not understand what they are? (544952) 8.00 Shop Till You Drop The last in the series

shopping (T) (9020) 8.30 A Cook on the Wild Side Hugh Feamley-Whittingstall arrives at the Severn Estuary in time for the elver migration (2/4) (T) (5827)

investigates the future of supermarkst

9.00 Dispariches Revealing the depth of racism and discrimination against black soldiers that exists in the British Army (T)

9.45 Bright Sparks Dominic Osbourne's film about the life of the British stock car champion, Mark Chipling (1) (370285)



Matt Dillon makes a point (10.00pm)

10.00 The Outsiders (1983) with Matt Dillon, Flaiph Macchio, C. Thomas Howell, Patrick Swayze, Rob Lowe, Emilo Estevez and Tom Cruise. Set in 1960s America, a group of young people from the wrong sides of the tracks in Tulsa battle with local students, with tragic results. Directed by Francis Coppole (T) (652575) 11.40 The Unpleasant World of Penn and

(467223)12.15 am The Last Tycoon (1976) with Robert
De Niro, Torry Curtis, Jeanne Moreau and
Jack Nicholson. Director Elia Kazan's
version of F. Scott Fitzgerald's unfinished Hollywood novel (14477131)

2.25 Loving (1970) with George Segal and Eva Marie Saint, A cornedy drama about a commercial artist being from between his wife and mistress. Directed by Irvin Kershner (751570) 4.10 Schools (1019082)

5,30 Backdate Outz (r) (T) (43808). Ends at

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory. published on Saturday

5KV 1
6.00am Morning Glory (806865) 9.00 Regis and Kathle Lee (49730) 10.00 Another World (31135) 11.00 Days of Our Lives (11372) 12.00 Opeah Wintery (84020) 1.00pas Gearded (70440) 3.00 Jerny Jones (10594) 4.00 Opeah Wintery (95001) 5.00 Sath Jessy Rephael (77440) 3.00 Jerny Jones (10594) 4.00 Opeah Wintery (95001) 5.00 Star Trek-Next Generation (1407) 6.00 Real TV (4469) 6.30 Married with Children (8049) 7.00 Smpsons (2136) 7.20 Mr4"S"H (7933) 8.00 Third Reck from the Sun (8555) 9.30 Jiha Nashry (7961) 9.00 Seinteid (85285) 8.30 Jiha Nashry (7961) 9.00 Seinteid (85285) 7.30 Mac About You (32109) 10.00 9 Chango Hope (32204) 11.00 Seinteid Scott Toright (90730) 11.30 Star Trek: Next Generation (2086) 12.30am (APD (34686) 1.30 Hit Mix (1668353)

SKY2 7.00pm Hercules. The Logendary Journeys (8690285) 8.00 Stiders. (6609833) 8.00 Highlespier (5696469) 10.00 Tek. War (8989556) 11.00 Late Show (8220789) 12.00 Hig Mix Long Play (9193999)

SKY NEWS SKY MOVIES

Schmen A Fea. In Her Ear (1968) (70846) 8.00 Spensor, Judae Goat (1994) (91020) 10.00 The Hudsucker Prony (1994) (8000) 12.00 Story Book (1994) (18914) 1.30pm The Minn In the Brown Sult (1999) (26558) 3.00 Remains Bave (1983) (24681) 5.00 The Hadsucker Prony (1994) (61204) 7.00 US Top 10 (7204) 7.30 Beby's Day Out (1994) (97198) 9.00 Cluniess (1995) (41771575) 10.40 Movie Short (5222(0) 11.10 The Shaurock Conspiracy (1996) (452652) 21.245em Clusiess (1995) (758155) 2.20 Proto-Porter (1994) (36279112) 4.30 Spensor Judes Gost (1994) (75402)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00mm When Willie Comes Marching Hone (1950) (72049) 7.30 David and the Magic Post (1995) (8401391) 8.45 Seventh Heason (1937) (81633790) 10.20

The second secon

the state of the state of the state of Will Success Spoll Rock Hunter? (1957) (94284020) 12.00 Along Came Jones (1945) (83285) 2.00pm Spencer's Mountain (1963) (21198) 4.00 Transformers: The Movie (1966) (7281) 5.00 Derby (1965) (3462) 6.00 A Good Man in Africa (1994) (46407) 10.00 Mismit Rhapsody (1994) (283482) 11.40 Red Shoe Diarles: The Game (1995) (854285) 1.00sm Jimmy Holfytrood (1994) (551752) 2.50 Severed Ties (1992) (310247) 4.25 Along Came Jones (1945) (43803) SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm Furny Girl (1968) (8151776) 8.30 Smokey and the Bandit III (1963) (3987001) 10.00 No Mercy (1965) (125730) 11.35 School Daze (1968) (8659223) 1.55am Dr. Jelyl and Mr. Hyde (1931) (6594285) 3.35-5.55 One-Eyed Jacks (1961) (56906711)

TNT 9.00pm Heart of Oarkness (1994) 02796285) 11.00 Grand Hotel (1932) (81082933) 1.00 The Formula (1980) (81040957) 3.00-5.00 The Adventures of Tertu (1943) (39024537) SKY SPORTS 1

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre (61391) 7.30 Wreslding (97372) 8.30 Recing News (81681)
9.00 Sports Centre (72933) 9.30 Aerobics
(18223) 10.00 Gress Roots Rughy (21285)
30.30 Live Golf (8136) 12.30pm World of
Super Leegus (78759) 2.30 Futbol Munckat
(1914) 3.00 Live Golf (51759) 5.30 Wreslang (8681) 6.00 Sports Centre (2643) 6.30
Netbusters (8223) 7.00 Schoolboy Footbell
(8882) 8.98 Sports Centre (877488) 9.00
Trans World Sport (8339) 10.00 Sports
Centre (60198) 10.30 Tight Lines (33440)
11.30 Trans World Sport (75339) 12.30am
Sports Centre (72660) 1.00 Golf (87685)
2.30-3.00 Sports Centre (58137)

SKY SPORTS 2 8.00pm Tight Lines (4386117) 9.00 Foot-ball League Review (4399681) 10.00 Spenish Football (4389440) 11.00 Bobby Charlton's Football Scrapbook (8176914) 12.30am-1.00 Second Imnings (6876222) SKY SPORTS 3 12.00 Aerobics (54/99759) 12.30pm Beach Volleybas (28750848) 1.30 lion Woman (56210001) 2.00 Watersh Tou

GRANADA PLUS 6.00am Krypton Factor (26/4502) 6.20 cince Upon a Time 9/42/2001, 6.45 Our Backyard (15/08/136) 7.00 Alphabet Zoo (41/04/69) 7.15 Once Upon a Time (55/76/33) 7.30 Return of the Antelope (65/76/2) 8.00 Chaote Coronalism Sheet (47/4/04/9) 8.30 Families (47/56/20) 9.00 Time Professionals (26/14/10) 10.00 Second Tempolish (26/47/50) 10.30 Time 5 Coronalism Sheet (16/47/50) 10.30 Time 5 Coronalism Sheet (16/ The Professionals (2013/10) 10.00 Second Thoughts (2689759) 10.30 Years Company (4741556) 11.00 Within These Walls (6558310) 12.00 Classic Coordaion Street (4767156) 12.30 pm Farmiter, 1739555 1.00 Albion Market (6554198) 1.30 Good



Silverstone, Donovan and Dash in Ciucless (Sky Movies, 9.00pm)

Life (Sud+ (763827) 2.00 Drummonds (766088) 3.00 Upsters Deemstars (165562) 4.00 Doctor Series (669502) 4.30 Sccord Trought, (6691204) 5.00 The Polessonation (6691204) 6.00 Families (669349) 6.00 Castar Countries (669349) 7.00 Doctor Scree (6973573) 7.30 Tec Company (689293) 8.00 Upster Deemstar (737427) 9.00 Casta Countries (6693497) 8.00 Tec Countries (737427) 9.00 Casta Countries (6693497) 8.30 Tre

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00cm Morey Track (P.19353) 6.25 Quade Allino (P.1908) 6.50 Bonkers Coacid Arrivo art.790 ta: 6.50 Bonkers (129565) 7.15 Liste Mennad (1516049) 7.40 Abratin (1992/59) 8.05 Good Troop (2906575) 8.30 Timon and Purchea (541551) 8.40 Card Bears (1495407) 9.10

(5610391) 4.00 Timon and Pumbes (4731643) 4.10 Gool Troop (9067846) 4.35 (4731643) 4.10 Good Troop (8067846) 4.26
 Borkers (567317) 5.00 Aleadon (3096169)
 5.25 Timor and Pumbaa (8178914) 5.35
 Durtwing Duck (615933) 6.00 Bone Chilers (2265) 6.30 Bone (6965) 7.00
 Brotherly Love (6965) 7.30 Flathe Talking Liberty (54963407) 8.10 Tarzan (939643)
 9.30-10.00 Golden Garts (32527)

FOX KIDS NETWORK

8.30 Crocados (7200759) 9.00 Rimbe's Island (5495310) 9.25 Why Why Farnily (7981310) 9.30 Zoobilee Zoo (3668198) 9.55 Why Why Farnily (7902448) 10.00 Rimbe's Island (1410765) 10.25 Why Why Farnily (9254198) 10.55 Why Why Farnily (92693662) 11.00 Princess Stafa (2762914) 11.30 Princetin (2753643) 12.00 Billy the Cal (7204575) 12.30pm VR Incopers (29764049) 12.50 Power Rangers (29744295) 1.10 Masked Rider (25340965) 1.30 Acc Ventura (8096204) 2.00 Casper

3.00 Eek-Stravenganza (4369852) 3.30 Acs Vertinua (1203943) 4.00 Casper (5053240) 4.30 Power Rangers (6359032) 8.00 Masked Rider (4347469) 6.30 Spiderman (265348) 8.00 Gooseburnos (5803007) 6.30-7.00 Sweet Valley High (1106399)

8.00mm Anne of Green Gables/Road to Avonica (29653) 7.00 Derms the Menace (73759) 7.30 Dermis the Menace (85594) 8.00 Bettinsin (29130) 8.30 Ari Alticak (27407) 9.00 Flesh Gordon (18759) 9.30 Bobby's World (64048) 10.00 Romusid the Render (59681) 10.30 Robinson Suctor (83553) 11.00 Derger Mouze (89049) 11.30 Gravedsie High (90776) 12.00 Coou's Orchestra (21223) 12.30m Heilwey Across the Galaxy and Turn Left (58965) 1.00 By the Way of the Stars (65730) 1.30 Black Beauty (57136) 2.00 Graf from Torromow (2310) 2.30 Ocean Colysey (7730) 3.00 Aristack (8117) 3.30 Flash Gardon (9575) 4.00 Betmen (1310) 4.30-5.00 The Big Dish (7594)

CARTOON NETWORK NICKELODEON

NICKELODEON

5.00ex Killer Torraices (39056) 6.30
Court Duclaris (38575) 7.00 Rocko
(9458952) 7.15 Hey Arnold (6561204) 7.30
Rugrais (48440) 8.00 Doug (90552) 6.30
Arrius (9922) 9.00 Children's BBC (70575)
10.00 Winzle's House (29827) 10.30 Babar (76759) 11.00 Magris (50hoo) Bus (44576)
11.30 Henry's Cat/Wil Crea Cwec/Luzle's Library/Topsey and Trn/Jernbo (45204)
12.00 Banarias in Pyjamas (90338)
12.20pm Little Bear Stories (10681) 1.00
Children's BBC (68204) 2.00 Dr Seusa (4136) 2.30 Klasyfur (9556) 3.00 Wishborne (3643) 3.30 Stolari Around (4001) 4.00
Bruno (3136) 4.30 Rugrais (2020) 5.00
Ssits Sister (5488) 5.30 Moestra (3372)
6.00 Press Gang (3335) 6.30-7.00 Doug

TROUBLE 12.00 Hearthreak, High (2678564) 1.00pm Madison (8178778) 1.30 Sweet Velley High (2658730) 2.00 Hangtime (4148339) 2.30 California Draama (8247778) 3.00 Byker (87078) 4127846) 3.39 2-5 (8242223) 4.00 Sweet Valley High (8221730) 4.30 Hangtime (8227914) 5.00 Saved by the Bell (4)22391) 5.30 Calilomia Dreams (8241594) 6.00 Byter Grove (8248407) 6.30 Madison (8239759) 7.00-8.00 Heart-BRAVO

8.00pm Robocop (3430440) 9.00 Burning Zone (3419204) 10.00 Four of Duy (3413391) 11.00 FILM: The Fourth Man (6828136) 1.00pm Burning Zone (2688088) 2.00 Tour of Duly (9552537) 9.00 FILM: A Night in the Life of Jimmy Reardon (2688841) 6.00 Robocop (7182805) PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm E UK (8952) 7.30 Roseanne (3579) 7.00pm E UK (8952) 7.30 Roseanne (3579) 8.00 Roseanne (4372) 8.30 Month Python (3407) 8.00 Cheers (84339) 9.30 Text (19907) 10.00 Garry Sharding (51440) 18.30 Frasier (77488) 11.00 The Doctor Is On (36556) 11.30 Month Python (58339) 12.00 Nurses (28179) 12.90mm Soap (70402) 1.00 Cheers (43518) 1.30 Text (82965) 2.00 E Uk (11082) 2.30 The Doctor Is On (58119) 3.00 Frasier (58082) 3.30-4.00 Garry Shanding (81841)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL 1.00em The Tweight Zone (1813537) 1.30 Tales of the Unexpected (3936247) 2.00 100 Years of Hunton (5988191) 2.30 Rod Serting's Night Gailleny (6213088) 3.00-4.00 Friday the 13th (2446088)

9.00em The Joy of Painting (2848310) 9.30 Grow with Joe (2868117) 10.00 Two's Country Cooking (4225778) 10.30 Our House (2844594) 11.00 Fix it (5384407) 11.30 This Old House (5365136) 12.00 Yen Can Cook (2835846) 12.30pm Graham Kerr (2562933) 1.00 Today's Gourner (8174952) 1.30 Home Again (2651204) 2.00 Hometime (4111265) 2.30 Furniture to Go (8243952) 3.00 Two's Country (4123020) 2.30-4.00 This Old House DISCOVERY

4.00pm Rex Hunt (8234204) 4.30 Australia 4.00pm Heir Hurri (8234204) 4-30 Australia Wild (82342048) 5.00 Transumer Hurners (4195856) 5.30 Beyond 2000 (8214440) 8.00 Wild Trings (2570852) 7.30 Invention (415001) 7.30 Wonders of Weather (8231117) 8.00 The Protessionals (3403914) 8.00 Top Marques 2 (5334643) 9.30 Disaster (2558469) 10.30 Science Detectives (2838575) 10.30 Science Detectives (2848223) 11.00 Classic Winest (8151001) 12.00 Science Frontiers

(2563860) 1.00am Driving Passions (4240608) 1.30-2.00 Extremel's (6888518) THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Biography Margaret Thatcher (8999310) 5.00 Jarusalam (3645938) 6.00 Four Years of Thunder (6184778) 7.00-8.00 Biography Vincent Price (4377469) CHALLENGE TV

Win with Prizes Time winds an hour \$.05 Blockbusters (1890556) 5.50 Spell-bound (629952) 6.30 Calcriphrase (513662) 7.05 Sale of the Century (857730) 7.40 Gave Us A Clue (469333) 8.20 All Clued Up (526851) 9.00 Through the keyhole (841198) 9.35 Busman's Holiday (73627) 10.05 Treasure Hum (227952) 11.20 Love at First Sight (578240) 12.00 Sale of the Century (64353) 12.30am Family Late Hart to Hart (83112) 1.30 Lou Grant (26957) 2.30 Christy (86959) 3.30 All Together Now (52353) 4.00 The Fall Guy (88150) 5.00 HSN Shopping (6940808) DK LIVING

B.Doars Tiny Living (2144846) 8.00 Glad-rags and Glamour (3963846) 8.15 Goldon Ellion (8925982) 10.05 Jerry Springer (4079778) 11.05 Young and the Resiless (8473407) 11.45 Super Fresco Fabulosious (44843001) 11.50 Brooksate (5654925) 12.25pm Why Mer (70176730) 12.55 Tempest (3761575) 1.40 Robinda (9197488) 2.30 Agony Expertence (2372372) 3.00 Live at Timee (49771846) 4.05 Jerry Springer (5772395 5.00 Super Fresco Fabulosious (37213862) 5.05 Lingo (84437827) 5.30 Liudy Ladders (2383488) 8.00 1 Dream of Jearnie (6459469) 6.35 Ready, Steady, Cook (3047488) 7.05 Brookside (1098865) 7.40 Who's Sorry Now? (5048965) 8.05 Relonda (8355310) 9.00 FILM: Klass of a Killer (3494759) 11.00-12.00 Sex Files (1965440)

7.00mm Jasgran 7.30 ZEF Morring 8.30 Business 9.00 Hasya Tena Char Vasya 9.30 Campus 10.00 Sehii 11.00 Aashiana 11.30 Beriegi April Baet 12.00 Destaan 12.30pm Dhoop Aur Chaon 1.00 FILM: Tahaika 4.00 ZEE Zone 4.10 Top 10 5.10 Vikram Aur Beetal 6.00 Sony Men Lony 6.30 ZEE and You 7.00 Euro Zindag: 7.30 Cremagic 8.00 News 8.35 Andaz 9.05
Jaci 8.30 Hassetein 10.00 Commender 10.30 Song Yaatra 11.00 Zee Horror 11.30-12.00 Aap Ki Farmaish

GOLF 50

Ballesteros given renewed hope for Ryder Cup reform

SPORT

ATHLETICS 53 The runner who refused to beat a retreat



THURSDAY MARCH 20 1997

Evans's team has point to prove

Liverpool must realise their true potential

LIVERPOOL and their manager, Roy Evans, have a tough act to follow, an era of almost 30 years in which the successive teams of Shankly, Paisley, Fagan — briefly — and Dalglish commanded the domestic and European foot-ball stage. Tonight and the next six weeks will show what Evans's Liverpool are made The second leg of the Cup

Winners' Cup quarter-final against SK Brann, of Bergen, ought to be no problem Neither, of course, should Noningham Forest have been in the FA Carling Premiership five days ago, Evans's Liverpool continue to hover between being outstanding and merely full of potential. Winning trophies requires potential to be realised.

Any great team is usually slightly in awe of the manager: his personality, his playing record, his tactical acumen as coach. I have the impression that Evans, as nice a man as one could meet, does not frighten his players quite

Kjell Tenniford, the Brann coach, overestimates the relative strengths of Norwegian and English football when he claims that there is "not much difference between the top of the Norwegian league and the top of the Premiership". That

behalf of his team in the Shankly mould, but it is

Brann are defensive, exceedingly quick on the counterattack and, in Tore Andre Flo, have a central striker capable of troubling any defence, not least Liverpool's. They are, however, primarily a physical side without exceptional technique, cleverly exploiting the long ball. Disciplined opposi-tion, armed with the advan-

Nigel Clough has returned to Manchester City after a three-month loan spell with Nottingham Forest. The struggling Premiership club decided not to sign Clough permanently after acquiring Pierre van Hooijdonk and Ian Moore for a total of £5.5 million last week.

tage of a 1-1 first-leg draw away from home as are Liver-pool, would swallow Brann at Anfield. Liverpool teams of the past would have done so. Will the present side?

As in Bergen, Collymore, a substitute against Forest, will not play. Evans preferring once again to have Berger, the rangy Czech forward, tucked in behind Fowler. Besides more accuracy in his shooting

TWO

No 1046 in association with

BRITISH MIDLAND

from Berger, Liverpool will be looking for another goal such as Fowler scored so marvel-

passage into the semi-finals will lie as much with the authority of their defence and midfield. But for a performance of real authority by the veteran Barnes, who was always available up and down the length of the field to come to the assistance of colleagues, Liverpool would not have played their way so easily out of trouble in Bergen. Tonight it will need a mature performance from young Redknapp. reliability from McAteer in his defensive qualities as a wing back and economy of possession by the roving

McAteer has recovered from a head wound, sustained

"Brann have proved to us what an accomplished side they are, and caused us many problems, so that we have to be right on the night now. We can take nothing for granted because there are no easy games in Europe these days."

cliche, but it is all too true. The attraction of this tie against Norwegian opposition, which 20 years ago might have seen sell-out, the way it has been for every home match in the tournament so far.

resume a place in the back three, Ruddock, who was often in trouble against Flo in the first leg, is likely to be omitted. with Harkness the likely replacement for the ineligible Kvarme. Ruddock's exclusion might be no bad thing after his exchange of words with one or two of the Norwegians.

Brann will be bringing over Brondby.

Newcastle inquest, page 52 Day of reckoning, page 53

SUSSEX, the oldest of En-

gland's county cricket clubs.

have never seen anything like it in their 158-year history. An

hour into their annual meet-

ing the entire committee - or

what was left of it - had

agreed to resign in the face of

the naked fury of their

Almost 800 of them, six

newly elected committee men

who were backing Pigott's

campaign, went straight for

the jugular by proposing a

motion to reject the annual

report. "It was not only a poor

season," he said, "but the

culmination of years of

He was backed by Roger

Dakin, a former England

hockey player and one of

talked of "basic mistrust and

supporters. who

mismanagement."

lously in Norway.
Yet the key to Liverpool's

against Forest, which required nine stitches, and will probably have to play in a bandage, though Evans said yesterday that there seemed no risk in playing him. "It would be pointless going out to play for a goalless draw just because we have an away goal," Evans said. "That would be suicidal. We must try and win, but at the same time we must defend and avoid giving away silly

That last comment may be a thirds full, has produced a

With Wright recovered to

2,000 supporters with them. The only doubt about their team is Flo's striking partner, Mons Ivar Mjelde, their leading scorer in the tournament. who has a knee injury. Tennfjord unwisely waited until the second half before introducing Mjelde in Bergen, allegedly because he had been troubled by a chest infection. An effective combination of these two forwards and any uncertainty by Liverpool could see them suffer the same indignity as last season, when they were ejected from the Uefa Cup by



Geoghegan makes striking impression

MICK McCARTHY, facing a shortage of strikers before Ireland's World Cup qualifyng group eight tie against Macedonia in Skopje next month, sprang a surprise yes-Stephen Geoghegan to solve the problem. Geoghegan, the part-time Shelbourne striker, thus became the first League of Ireland player to be picked for a competitive Ireland inter-

national since 1985. McCarthy, the Ireland manager, had no hesitation including Geoghegan in his final selection, especially with Niall

Quinn, of Sunderland, David Connolly, of Watford, and Keith O'Neill, of Norwich City, all ruled out by injuries. The 26-year-old has impressed in representative games playing for the league and an

The lad is there on merit," McCarthy said yesterday. "He fully deserves his inclusion. Stephen is capable of holding the ball up and can score

For his part, Geoghegan believed his call-up for the game on April 2 could mark a breakthrough for footballers in Ireland. This is a great

boost for myself. Shelbourne diff last month, winning a and the League of Ireland," he said. "Hopefully, it is only the tip of the iceberg, as I know there are a lot of players here knocking on the international door. For me, this has come right out of the blue. I am

Geoghegan was previously included in an Ireland squad back in April 1994 for the 1-0

victory over Holland in a friendly in Tilburg, but he stayed on the bench. He is likely to be a substitute on this occasion, too, with Jon Goodman, of Wimbledon, who made his debut in the scoreless draw with Wales in Car-

less draw with Wales in Cardiff, has the chance to extend his record haul of caps to 84, there is again no room Skopje earlier this month.

for the Leeds United defender, McCarthy, who saw Macedonia lose I-O to Australia in

second cap alongside Tony

Ray Houghton after the Crystal Palace man assured Mc-

Carthy that he is again 100 per

cent fit after a three-month lay-off. While Paul McGrath,

of Derby County, who im-

pressed in last month's score-

McCarthy has also recalled

Cascarino up front.

However, I believe we can go out there and try to win. We have the ability to go out and look for a good result. "We will not sit back and

look for a point. Victory would put his in the right mood for Bucharest later next month."

IRIBLAND (Irom): A Keity (Shefheld United);
S Given (Blackburn Rovers), K Cunningham (Wintbledon), J Kenne (Blackburn Rovers), T Phelan (Evanton), D Invin-(Manchester United), F McGrath (Detry County), G Breen (Covertry City), I Harte (Leeds United), S Staurton (Aston Villa), J McAsser (Interpool), R Houghton (Crystal Petron) R Keene (Manchester United), A Townsend (Aston Villa), A McCoughtin (Potsmouth), D Keity (Sunderland), J Goodman (Warobladon), A Cassamino (Nancy), A Moore (Micclesbrough), S. Geoghegan (Shelbourne).

Hamilton is counting on Dowie

By Our Sports Staff

BRYAN HAMILTON is counting on Iain Dowie to reaffirm his leadership qualities as Northern Ireland prepare for two vital World Cup qualifying matches later this month. The West Ham United forward will play a crucial role in the matches against Portugal, in Belfast on March 29, and in Kiev, against Ukraine, four days later.

Dowie, who scored both goals in Northern Ireland's 2-0 win over Albania in their last group nine qualifying match, returns after missing games against Italy and Belgium because of a broken

ankle. The Northern Ireland manager said: "I'm delighted that lain is ready to come back as we get down to the serious business with these back-to-back qualifiers. "He always leads by exam-

ple and is a very important influence on everyone in our squad. He'll also be on his toes because we've seen young strikers perform impressively while he's been

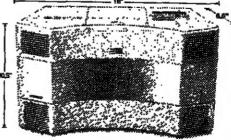
Hamilton includes Kevin Horlock, of Manchester City. and Michael Hughes, of West Ham, in the squad, although they will be suspended for the

Portugal game. The manager said: "Kevin has become an increasingly influential play-er and Michael definitely has a match-winning talent. But we've steadily built up a good squad and I am confident those who come in won't let us

Hamilton knows he needs victories in both games to keep the World Cup dream alive, but said: "We've put together some good performances and I believe Portugal will be looking at us this time and envisaging a hard game. I honestly think we've the talent to beat them."

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DOWN

Endeavour (7)

4 Tolerate (6)

5 Not for disc

stone (7) 7 Perhaps (5)

17 Sand hills (5)

court (3,6)

Great fuss, wind (5)

Upper leg; circuit (3)

6 Egypt town, hieroglyph-key

11 Special benefit, immunity

16 Divisor, business agent (6)

18 Sticking out arrogant (5)

20 Type of tree; part of mouth (3)

13 Department head (7)

15 Deep, dismal cell (7)

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All Ilights are subject to availability.

16 Rahbit 17 Legacy 19 Haste 21 Vivid

Post your entry to Times Two Crossword, PO Box 6886, London E2 8SP to arrive by next Monday. The winners' names and solution will appear on Wednesday.

SOLUTION TO NO 1045

Name/Address

ACROSS

Free from blame (7)

9 Claude — Fr. composer (7)

12 Suicide bird (Mikado) (3-3)

17 Birnam Wood came to it (Macbeth) (9)

18 Fasten: (golf) hole marker

19 Insufficient attention (7)

21 Swell: sudden increase (5)

5 Rugby formation (5)

10 Silent; act in mime (3)

8 Cavalry unit (5)

11 Dancer's twiri (9)

14 Magician (6)

20 Sphere (5)

22 Muslim fast (7)

ACROSS: I Quantify 5 Stub 9 After 10 Illness 11 Go under 12 Sieve 13 Have a ball 18 Ad hoc 20 Revenue 22 Bastion 23 Viola 24 Trek 25 Tendency DOWN: 1 Quango 2 Azimuth 3 Tread 4 Friar Laurence 6 There 7 Bushel 8 Alaska 14 Victim 15 Lincoln

Pat Gibson hears the

cries of anger and the committee's

resignation at the troubled club's

annual meeting

times as many as normally turn out, had poured into the lack of communication not Empress Suite of the Grand just with the players but the Hotel in Brighton and all but a members as well." And almost handful were backing their everyone in the hall waded in former fast bowler, Tony with shouts of "resign". It took a while for the Pigott, in his call for change. Jim May, one of three

message to sink in. Frank Horan, the club surgeon, who had been shouted down when he referred to the committee's opponents as rabble-rousers. stormed out of the meeting after 45 minutes claiming that he did not believe in mob rule.

Fifteen minutes later, Alan Wadey, the vice-chairman, spoke for the remaining two members of the committee. Ken Hopkins, the chairman, and the former captain, John Barclay, when he said: "There



is no doubt that we as a committee have to go. I am prepared to give you an undertaking that we will stand down at the end of the meeting but let us finish the business

Only then was the beleaguered Hopkins enabled to press on in an atmosphere which had clearly shocked him and his committee. They had not realised how much the events of the past winter had stirred even these most placid of cricket lovers who usually spend their summer days sprawled blissfully in their deckehairs without a word of

complaint. Six capped players have

Pigott whips up storm at Sussex been allowed to leave the club. including the captain, Alan Wells, who was sacked and subsequently blamed for the shambles, Ed Giddins, the fast bowler, who was dismissed after failing a drugs test, and Ian Salisbury, the England leg spinner, who has defected to Surrey.

It was all too much for Pigott, who obtained the necessary 50 signatures to force a special meeting, to be held in Hove Town Hall on April 8. That may no longer be

Pigott's supporters had distributed copies of his manifesto, Sussex 2000, which sets out the situation at the club as he sees it, and his ideas for change.

"We are committed to forward-looking policies to improve communication, finance, development and, most importantly, to bring playing success to the club," the manifesto said. It called for a fresh start and the members were obviously in the same

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Series series and the The set of the second Term Carrie TOTAL PARK

The ball And